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Front Cover – Gray Kingbird, Great Kills Park, *Richmond*, 4 Dec 2021, © Jay McGowan.  
Back Cover – Tropical Kingbird, Mount Loretto Unique Area, *Richmond*, 26 Sep 2021,  
© Anthony Ciancimino; see article pp. 2-8.



# TROPICAL KINGBIRD AT STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK AND A NORTHEASTWARDS SURGE OF VAGRANTS TO NORTH AMERICA

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and Anthony V. Ciancimino**  
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Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) is an abundant and widespread Neotropical species with an extended history of vagrancy to temperate North America (Pranty *et al.* 2016). One at Mount Loretto Unique Area, Staten Island, NY (40.503575, -74.218169) on 26 September 2021 was just the second for New York State, less than a year after the first, at Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County, 27-29 October 2020 (Tom Warren, Julien Ansellem, eBird). These New York records follow scores of records from Florida since 1982 and at least 25 from northeastern North America through 2020. Here we provide details for the Staten Island record, describe the broader recent increase in northward occurrence of vagrant Tropical Kingbirds, and address what could be responsible for this change. Specifically, we tested the hypothesis that the occurrence of Tropical Kingbirds in northeastern North America could be predicted by their occurrence in Florida and confirmed that this was so, supporting the notion that vagrancy to northeastern North America is the result of an ongoing process of population growth, exploratory behavior, and colonization.

**The Staten Island Bird**—About 0700 on 26 September 2021 RRV noted a yellow-bellied kingbird foraging in the shrubby vegetation along the base of the bluff by the old lighthouse at Mount Loretto Unique Area on Staten Island. His first impression was that the bird seemed to have too extensive and bright yellow on the underparts, extending up higher on the throat than on a Western Kingbird. The bird flew three times during the next 15 minutes or so, moving southeastwards along the bluff, and on each of those flights, the bird showed what clearly appeared to be a brownish-olive (and not black) tail that lacked any white at the edges. At this point RRV thought this was likely a Tropical or Couch's Kingbird (*T. couchii*). He sent out email and text messages, and AVC appeared shortly thereafter. RRV lost track of the bird after it flew up from the beach and across the top of the bluff, until both managed to relocate it sitting on a telephone wire that runs from the lighthouse buildings on the top of the bluff north towards Hylan Boulevard. At this point, AVC took photographs that confirmed the bird was either a Tropical or Couch's Kingbird (Ciancimino 2021). Again the bird flew, and when attempting to relocate it, RRV and AVC simultaneously noticed a bird perched at the top of a dead tree on the far west side of the park, which turned out to be the kingbird. At that time, AVC heard a distinct high-pitched twittering call, slower and coarser than that of Eastern Kingbird (*T. tyrannus*),



three of which were also present at Mount Loretto that day and calling, and distinct from the single “peek” call note typical of Couch’s Kingbird. The Tropical Kingbird then called a second time during foraging bouts. We followed the bird as it moved about the Mount Loretto property, concentrating its activity in the trees surrounding Cunningham Pond, at the intersection of Hylan Boulevard and Cunningham Road. During its one-day stay, it was seen and photographed by numerous observers (eBird; photos p. 56 and back cover). On 26 September, the Tropical Kingbird was seen in the company of three Eastern Kingbirds, an Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), a vocalizing Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) and a Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*), all photographed (eBird).

**Recent Increase in North America**—Tropical and Couch’s Kingbirds are very similar to one another and it is doubtful that juveniles can be distinguished from one another in the field, except by calls (Dickinson and Christidis 2014, Pranty *et al.* 2016, Chesser *et al.* 2021). Tropical Kingbirds utter a twittering call, quite similar to the twittering calls of Eastern Kingbird, whereas Couch’s Kingbirds utter a sharp “pic” or “peek” note quite different from Tropical’s. The occurrence of both Tropical and Couch’s Kingbirds in eastern North America has increased substantially since about 1995. Figure 1 shows the occurrence in the East of Tropical Kingbirds, including individuals that were definitely either Tropical or Couch’s, but not identified to species.

Pranty *et al.* (2016) critically examined 56 records of Tropical/Couch’s Kingbirds from Florida, and concluded that 14 could be conclusively identified as Tropical Kingbird and none as Couch’s Kingbird, although they qualify this by saying they “consider descriptions of two vocalizing individuals to be credible” (as records of Couch’s Kingbird). Tropical Kingbirds have successfully nested in the Sarasota area of southwest Florida, as have Tropical x Gray Kingbird hybrid pairs.

We suspect the reason for the recent increase in records of these kingbirds in North America is increased population growth and consequent range expansion (Veit 2000, Zawadzki *et al.* 2019, Veit *et al.* 2021). To test this idea, we modelled the occurrence of both Tropical and Couch’s Kingbirds (considered together) in northeastern North America (all states and provinces north of North Carolina adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean) as a function of the occurrence of these species in Florida. Our rationale is that the two quantities are both the result of population growth.

## METHODS

We calculated the correlation between records of Tropical Kingbird in Florida (Pranty *et al.* 2016), and records in northeastern North America (from eBird, listed in the Appendix), using Spearman rank (R Core Team 2019).

We checked for temporal autocorrelation (R command *pacf*, R Core Team 2019) in both series of records. This revealed temporal autocorrelation at a lag of two years for both series. We then formulated three regression models; we chose

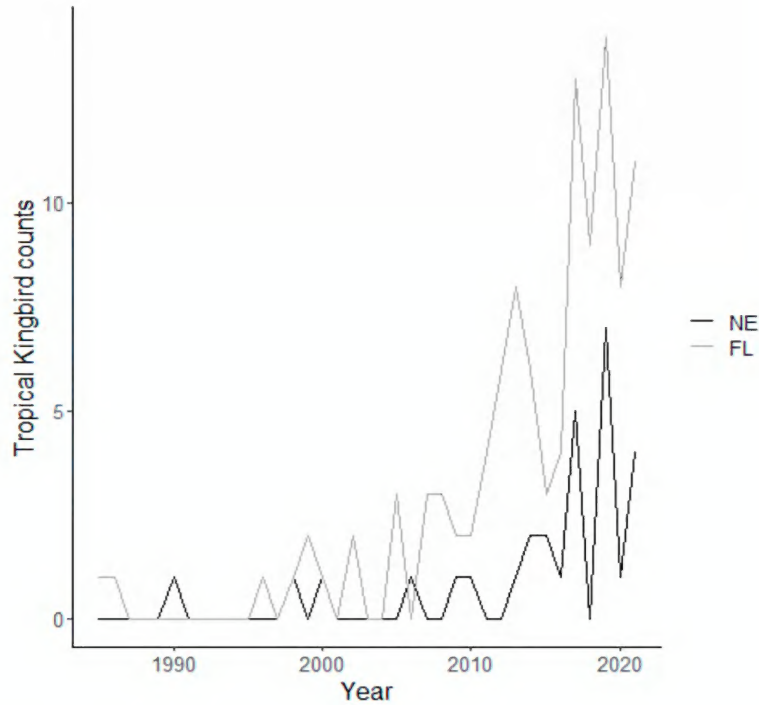
the best model as the one with the lowest Akaike Information Criterion (AIC; Burnham and Anderson 2002). We sought to predict the number of northeastern North America Tropical Kingbirds as the response, using either

- year, or
- year + number of Florida Tropical Kingbirds, or
- number of Florida Tropical Kingbirds

as predictors. We used GAMM (R command *gamm* in package *mgcv*; Wood 2017) models, and incorporated an autocorrelation structure (lag two years) in each model.

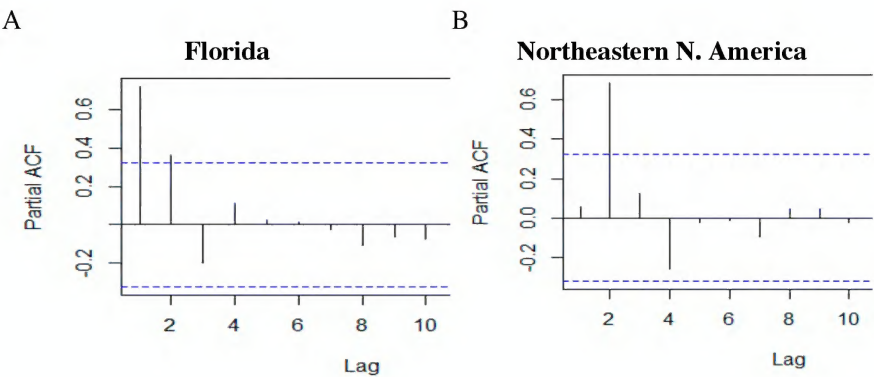
### RESULTS

The number of Tropical Kingbird records in northeastern North America is significantly related to the number of records in Florida, showing the same upward swings in about 2009 and, especially, 2017 (Spearman’s rho = 0.4128, p = 0.001, Fig. 1).



**Figure 1.** Number of Tropical/Couch’s Kingbird records in Florida (gray; from Pranty *et al.* 2016) and northeastern North America (black; eBird).

The number of Tropical Kingbird records in Florida is significantly temporally autocorrelated at lags one and two years (Fig. 2a). Records from northeastern North America are significantly autocorrelated at two years (Fig. 2b). Because of these results, we incorporated an autocorrelation term with a lag of two in the GAMM models.



**Figure 2.** Partial autocorrelations for records from Florida and northeastern North America, showing significant autocorrelation at one and two years, and at two years, respectively.

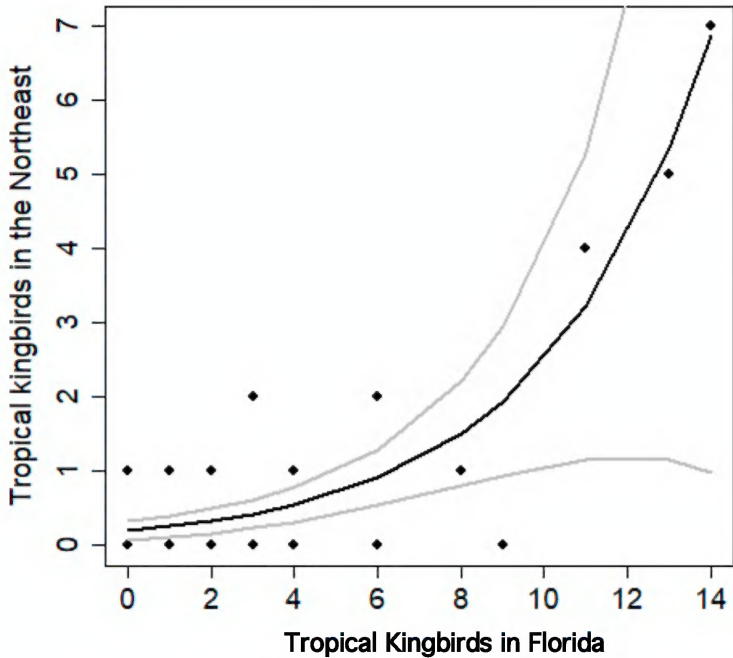
According to AIC, the best model to predict number of northeastern North American Tropical Kingbirds is that using (only) the number of Florida Tropical Kingbirds (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Outputs of models predicting Northeastern Tropical Kingbird records.

Predictor(s)	p-values	AIC	Adj R <sup>2</sup>
Year	3.3 x 10 <sup>-5</sup>	163	0.45
Year	Year: 0.04	154	0.67
Florida Tropical Kingbirds	FL: 0.16		
Florida Tropical Kingbirds	8 x 10 <sup>-7</sup>	145	0.82

Retaining the model with Florida Tropical Kingbirds yields a predictive model as in Figure 3, indicating that we can expect a roughly exponential increase in numbers of Tropical Kingbirds to northeastern North America going forward.





**Figure 3:** Numbers of Tropical Kingbirds appearing in northeastern North America, as predicted by numbers of Tropical Kingbirds appearing in Florida (from Veit *et al.* 2022, used by permission).

### DISCUSSION

We’ve shown that the best model (among those considered here) is one with the number of Tropical Kingbirds detected in Florida as a predictor of Tropical Kingbirds in the Northeast. One might raise the argument that the single predictor Year and the single predictor FL Tropical Kingbirds had similar levels of significance ( $10^{-5}$  and  $10^{-7}$ ), so perhaps the strength of the FL Tropical Kingbirds model is merely due to autocorrelation. We reject this line of reasoning because the adjusted  $R^2$  is so much greater (for the FL Tropical Kingbirds model). Further, the FL Tropical Kingbirds data is itself strongly temporally autocorrelated—that is why, in the model containing both Year and FL Tropical Kingbirds as predictors, once Year is accounted for, FL Tropical Kingbirds is no longer significant. Given this, one might be tempted to model northeastern North American vagrant numbers using Year (only) as a predictor, but that would only be useful so long as numbers of Florida Tropical Kingbirds continued to increase as time increases. We contend that the strong association between Florida records and time is what drives the increasing numbers of Tropical Kingbirds to the Northeast. Of course, the increasing number of Tropical Kingbirds in Florida is itself a result of population growth in Central and South America, so the overall

process is a northward progression of vagrancy and colonization from the core of the range.

This is a different scenario from what would be predicted by “drift”, “misorientation”, or “overshooting” (summarized in Howell *et al.* 2014), and more similar to population growth combined with “exploratory behavior” (Baker 1978, Fayet *et al.* 2016, Veit *et al.* 2021). Thus, vagrants are not “lost” or misoriented; the increasing spread of kingbirds through eastern North America represents the intentional searching by these birds for new habitat, driven by the increasing numbers of young birds being produced (Zawadzki *et al.* 2019, Acosta Alamo *et al.* 2022, Veit *et al.* 2022). Not all of the vagrants will be successful finding suitable habitat for nesting, but some already have in Florida, including both hybrid Tropical x Gray and pure Tropical pairs that have successfully fledged young (Pranty *et al.* 2016; eBird). Seeing that these are tropical species moving northwards, it seems likely that the recent increase in population growth is at least partly driven by changing climate.

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**Appendix**—List of all reported Tropical Kingbirds plus Tropical/Couch’s Kingbirds (but not Couch’s Kingbirds) in states and provinces bordering the Atlantic Ocean, as well as Pennsylvania, to include records at Philadelphia and Conowingo that seem to belong here. Data from eBird; all were reported as Tropical Kingbirds; those listed as Tropical/Couch’s were not heard calling (for consistency with Pranty *et al.* 2016).

Date	Location	Tropical	Tropical/ Couch’s
31 Oct 1915	Scarborough, ME	X	
16 Jun 1984	Anticosti Island, QC		X
11-18 Oct 1990	New Haven, CT	X	
8-17 Jul 1998	Cap Tourmente, QC	X	
11-12 Dec 2000	Hingham, MA	X	
26 Nov 2006-3 Jan 2007	Somerset, MD	X	
13 Oct 2009	Prime Hook, DE	X	
31 Oct-2 Nov 2010	Falmouth, MA	X	
20 Jun 2013	Philadelphia, PA	X	
1 Aug 2014	Manicouagan, QC		X
6 Oct 2015	Montreal, QC		X
18 Oct 2015	Northumberland, NB		X
17-23 Nov 2016	Conowingo, PA	X	
10 Jun 2017	New Castle, DE		X
8 Jul-5 Aug 2017	Barabois, QC		X
24 Oct 2017	Yarmouth, NS	X	
4 Nov 2017	Gloucester, NB	X	
9 Nov 2017	Westmorland, NB		X
14 Jun-4 Jul 2019	Plymouth, MA	X	
15 Jul 2019	Assateague, MD		X
19-26 Oct 2019	Belmont, MA	X	
28 Oct 2019	East Machias, ME		X
28 Oct-3 Nov 2019	Cambridge, NB	X	
2 Nov 2019	Shelburne, NS		X
2 Nov 2019	Cape Henlopen, DE	X	
20 Oct 2020	Westchester, NY	X	
15 May 2021	Provincetown, MA	X	
26 Sept 2021	Staten Island, NY	X	
5 Dec 2021	Rockport, MA	X	



## NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

### Spring Flight Chronology of American Crows in Lancaster, Erie County, New York

During the winter months American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) in western New York State congregate each night in enormous roosts sometimes containing several thousand individuals (Beardslee and Mitchell 1965). The 1980-85 Breeding Bird Atlas of New York State reported American Crow present in 93% of all blocks, and it was the ninth most prevalent species (Andrle and Carroll 1988). American Crows began using urban areas to roost and nest during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (McGowan and Corwin 2008). American Crows often fly to the roost along established flight lines. If you are near one of these you may observe that, for an hour or more in late afternoon, crows will be passing overhead, a few at a time (Stokes 1979).

### METHODS

Observations were made from the lofty lookout on the sixth floor of the Lancaster Tower Apartments in urban Lancaster, Erie County, NY. From this vantage point the author could see across 180 degrees from east to west. The flight lines of the crows were observed over an approximately two hour period (3:40 PM to 5:40 PM) Eastern Standard Time. Sunset on 29 February was at 6:04 PM. Observations were made between 29 February and 30 March, 2020. The author was fortunate enough to be in the direct path of a major flight of crows from their forging areas to their nightly communal roost, at Stiglmeier Park in the town of Cheektowaga. The flight line led from the town of Cheektowaga, through the village of Lancaster into the town of Alden. For part of their flight, the crows used Cayuga Creek to guide them.

### RESULTS

The flight line initially was from east to west and by 8 March the flight line split into two noticeable streams: the major flight direction being east to west, but with a secondary stream that headed north to northwest. These two streams may have converged later. On 29 February, I observed 1039 crows and by 25 March the numbers dwindled down to four, decreasing in a roughly exponential fashion, with a first order half-life of roughly three and one half to four days. Table 1 lists the daily counts of crows. The 5 March observation was an outlier because crows were observed for only a one hour period. The month of March 2020 was 8° Fahrenheit warmer than average. On 7 March, I observed a pair of crows breaking off from the flight line to circle locally over large white pines and perching, appearing to look for a nesting tree. On 15 March from my lookout I observed a crow bowing or bobbing its head indicating that courtship had begun. It is

assumed that the crows dispersed to their individual nesting sites gradually through the month of March.

Table 1. Counts of American Crows flying to roost in Lancaster, Erie County, NY, 29 Feb-30 March 2020.

Date	Count
29 Feb	1039
5 Mar	86
6 Mar	385
7 Mar	454
8 Mar	157
9 Mar	150
10 Mar	66
11 Mar	11
13 Mar	47
14 Mar	223
15 Mar	78
16 Mar	7
17 Mar	134
18 Mar	8
19 Mar	9
21 Mar	24
23 Mar	30
25 Mar	4
30 Mar	14

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## **PATCH BIRDING THE EXPANDED PATCH**

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Driving westward from Queens into Brooklyn, the Belt Parkway bends to the south. On early mornings at certain times of year, this is where I find rosy-fingered Dawn, along with hopeful thoughts and the prospect of some birding before work. When traffic is moving well, the miles to Gravesend Bay pass quickly, and, as the road bends back to the right, the early twilight can seem eerily prolonged, as though I were somehow outpacing the sunrise behind me. Then in an instant, the 360 degree ramp onto the Verrazano Bridge destroys the illusion and morning breaks over my Expanded Patch.

For several reasons, I drive much more than most birders—and much more than I otherwise would prefer. Against the many costs of this lifestyle, I've gained intimate familiarity with many local sites over an area that is relatively large, but also contiguous and ecologically cohesive. Comparing and contrasting my favorite places has evolved into a system of purposeful coverage, and it is not an exaggeration to note that I have birded every publicly accessible outer coastal vantage between Conference House Park at the southern tip of Staten Island and Quicksand Pond, on the Rhode Island-Massachusetts border, as well as a large and representative sample of such sites from Cape Charles, Virginia to Portland, Maine. I'm the first to acknowledge that my birding career is unsustainable and unsuited for mass adoption; but I believe that the concept of an Expanded Patch can be generalized and applied at almost any scale. My thesis is that many birders have an Expanded Patch, even if they're not aware of it as such, and that purposeful attention to it is worth the effort.

An Expanded Patch is an area of sustained interest and coverage, across which a birder learns the nuances of status and distribution. Criteria for delineating them are provisional at this point. Because species richness varies so much from region to region in New York, raw species totals are of limited use. As I ponder reaching 300 species at a single site (Robert Moses State Park) and 400 in a county (Suffolk), I recognize that participants in the NYS County Listing project have achieved 300 in just seven of 56 mainland counties. But in any area, sites that are birded in patch-like fashion should be distinguishable from areas covered less regularly in terms of ratios among single sites, between single sites and entire counties, and among counties.

It is easy to identify patch birders by their relatively high species totals at local sites and to ask where, beyond a core patch, the single-site totals drop off steeply relative to those of other birders. What I mean by "steeply" is not arbitrary, even if I am not yet sure of the best criteria. For me, there are many sites throughout Suffolk County where I've recorded at least 60% of my total at RMSP, and even more where I've seen more than 50% and which I feel I know intimately. Notably, the sites with totals 50-60% of RMSP would have >60% if my core patch were not such an outlier in its species richness. Thus, 60% relative to a max site appears to be a good criterion to identify sites that one covers intensively; and the number and spatial distribution of these sites can be used to delineate an Expanded Patch.



Because counties are a unit of focus for many birders and also tracked in eBird, it's easy to see where one's site and county lists drop off relative to one's home territory. If one's Expanded Patch is roughly the whole of a single county, there ought to be few sites in adjacent counties where one has recorded more than 60% of one's single-site max. Conversely, if one finds many such sites, this might indicate an Expanded Patch spanning more than one county. At the next scale, it's easy to find where one's lists for contiguous counties exceed (or fail to exceed) 60% of one's home county total. Testing these criteria against my experience, my totals for adjacent Washington (RI) and Nassau Counties are both 85% of my Suffolk total—and both are clearly (to me) within my Expanded Patch. In contrast, my total for adjacent New London (CT) is just 25% of Suffolk's. In Kent and Newport Counties, adjacent to Washington, my totals also drop off sharply, to 27% and 48%, respectively, at least according to eBird. Closer examination of my historical records might bring Newport closer to EP status, but clearly I haven't been birding there intensively during the live eBird era.

Westward on Long Island, my county totals decline progressively, but not sharply, through Queens (75%) and Kings (64%)—and next-in-line Richmond (61%) is also within my EP, according to the 60% criterion, as I feel it ought to be. Beyond these counties, the drop-off is steep in adjacent New Jersey (not worth calculating), and even in New York (30%) and Bronx (28%) Counties, both within my home *Kingbird* Region 10. The boundaries of my Expanded Patch are thus very distinct, encompassing an east-west coastal swath featuring gradients in human population density, land use, and plant communities.

Identifying the boundaries of your own EP could accomplish several things. It will likely reveal particular sites around the margins of your core patch that deserve more attention, or a neglected corner of your county that could be brought up to the level of coverage applied elsewhere. It may reveal that you already have a multi-county Expanded Patch!

My own patch-style birding has produced a good number of self-found rarities across the six-county EP. I've also seen many rare birds found here by others, and my life list for the EP has grown large, to 418 species. Curiously, chasing rarities within an EP will make each individual county list look worse against the overall total, whereas birding each county intensively will improve this ratio. I've seen 92% of my six-county total in Suffolk, 78% in Washington and Nassau, 70% in Queens, but only 59% in Kings and 56% in Richmond. These numbers suggest that I have a four-county core EP (Washington-Queens), and, indeed, the number of species I have seen in all six counties is just 185, whereas I've seen 260 species in each of the four counties, Washington-Queens.

Building an Expanded Patch is an ecological education available to any birder, and therefore, potentially at least, environmentally progressive. The opposite of birding an Expanded Patch is not birding a smaller patch, but rather any number of things that many of us do already: air travel, chasing rare birds out of patch, focusing on statewide year lists year after year, etc. The ethic of the Expanded Patch is simply a rationale for purposeful reallocation of effort, in any degree.

If you expand your patch, there will be some laughs. I recall my dueling worries as a CBC compiler, between (a) contriving elaborate schemes, involving multiple parties, poachers, and raiders, to round up a staked-out Yellow-breasted Chat (which

would ultimately be missed) on a western Long Island CBC, even as I was toiling (b) to compile the Napatree CBC, where the problem was sorting out the seven chats recorded a few days earlier, not really very far away. And I remember enjoying a rare bird with friends in a New York City park and noting their innocent confidence in the abundance and ubiquity of Northern Shovelers, whereas I had just recorded the species for the first time ever on the Block Island CBC, which dates back to 1925. My long association with my EP has placed me in interesting conversation with generations of up and coming birders, and the many challenges they face. None is more characteristic of my EP than the problem of seeing Black-legged Kittiwakes. Abundant and widespread, but highly irregular inshore and difficult to identify, many newer birders from NYC tally impressive lists of real vagrants before connecting with a kittiwake. My seemingly high contact rate naturally inspires curiosity (and no doubt frustration), but it is nothing else than the product of relentless effort in the appropriate contexts, across the breadth of a well-chosen EP. On my first CBC, the day after Christmas, 1982, Bob Conway drove me to Point Judith before dropping me off for my assignment. He wanted me to witness the epic flight of kittiwakes that Dick Ferren was tallying, which totaled 4,826.

For me, the six contiguous counties comprising Staten Island, Long Island, and southwestern Rhode Island have rewarded my purposeful effort with insights into identification, distribution, migration, dispersal, and vagrancy that I treasure deeply. I've directly observed the almost incomprehensible resilience of the natural world, such that there are still many sites in my Expanded Patch that offer the contemporary observer similar ornithological (if not aesthetic) experiences to those described by Ferren, Buckley, Bull, Cruickshank, Griscom, Hathaway, and Giraud—despite the grotesque mutilations ceaselessly inflicted on this beautiful corner of the world. Aldo Leopold wrote, “One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds. An ecologist must either harden his shell and make believe that the consequences of science are none of his business, or he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well and does not want to be told otherwise.” As I vacillate between hardening and doctoring, at least I can make a strong case that purposeful birdwatching is fun and productive. Some doctors for the future might even be born of it.

Table 1. Some metrics of personal birding effort across six counties in coastal New York and Rhode Island.

County	Species Seen	County Total/ 6-Co. Total	CBCs	Birding Visits/ Square Mile
Washington	327	0.78	80	2.82
Suffolk	387	0.92	63	1.65
Nassau	327	0.78	22	0.86
Queens	289	0.70	0	0.84
Kings	244	0.59	1	1.05
Richmond	232	0.56	0	1.37
Total	418	.	166	1.61

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN

# The KINGBIRD

**Lesser Black-backed Gull at Onondaga Lake, New York:** While checking gulls and shorebirds on Onondaga Lake 28 September 1971 I found a distinctly dark-mantled gull swimming with an assemblage of Herring (*Larus argentatus*) and Ring-billed (*Larus delawarensis*) Gulls at the mouth of Nine-mile Creek. Struck by its size, scarcely larger than the Ring-billed Gulls, and by its small-headed, slender-billed appearance, I suspected it to be a Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) although its legs were not visible. After following it several minutes, I quickly scanned the rest of the area here, then discovered the bird had left its original position. A quick check showed it to be standing just under knee deep in water in the center of a large group of Ring-billed Gulls. I moved to a closer position to check leg color, then dashed to the nearest public phone to alert other local birders, and returned to the lake and continued studying the bird. F. G. Scheider, C. G. Speis, M. S. Rusk, and J. W. Propst arrived in time to see the bird before it flew off to the southwest. I observed the bird for perhaps 50 minutes under bright overcast skies with a 30X Balscope at ranges up to 50 yards. All observers, of which I was the only one not to have seen the species before, concurred with the identification.

A description, with elaborations from notes made in the field and before consulting field guides, in parentheses, follows:

A dark-mantled gull the size of (an extremely) small Herring Gull by direct comparison, (probably in third alternate plumage). The head, belly and tail were uniform white; (the back of the head was lightly streaked with gray or the feathers were badly ruffled). The mantle was dark slaty gray, appearing uniform except for white tips to the scapulars and secondaries and flashing white feather bases when the bird spread its wings; the primaries were black and unpatterned, (the innermost colored more like the mantle). In flight the primaries were smudged with black below; the rest of the underwing was pure white. The wings were very long, extending 2 to 3 inches beyond the tail tip, and the tip of the secondaries came to within an inch of the tail tip. The head was noticeably small for the size of the bird and the bill, orangey yellow with a red spot at the gonys like a Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*), was long and slender, about 3 times as long as deep and with almost no suggestion of a gonydeal angle. Leg color (was difficult to determine) ; the knees were a dark, dirty pink, and the tibia were darker (the color was clearly in contrast to the yellow-green of adult Ring-billed Gulls and the fleshy pink of Herring Gulls and immature Ring-bills) ; the feet were never seen. The eye was small and appeared to be uniformly dark.

My general impression of the bird was a gull the shape of an overgrown Ring-billed Gull, or even better, the long-winged extreme of Iceland Gull (*Larus*



*glaucoides*), only with a mantle like a Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) but darker, although not quite the slaty black of the Great Black-backed Gull. Because of the problems associated with identification of this species in North America, I comment on why I think all other species (and most hybrids) can be eliminated. Soft part colors can be attributed to the bird's immaturity. The small size of the bird, and in particular the small-headed, slender-billed, long-winged appearance at once eliminates Great Black-backed Gull, Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*), Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*), and Herring X Great Black-backed hybrids, all of which are larger than most Herring Gulls and noticeably heavier billed, as are the two most similar Old World races of Herring Gull, *L. a. atlantis* and *L. a. heuglini*. In addition the former is paler than *fuscus* (Scheider and Probst both thought this bird was darker than the bird which wintered at Ithaca) ; *heuglini* could only be eliminated on the basis of size, but presumably is also paler. Of the European forms, only the Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus graellsii*) has been documented for North America. Counting all appearances of the Ithaca bird as 1 record, this appears to be the 4th record in New York State away from Region 10, and the second for Region 5.

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Ed. comment: The writer of this note is to be commended for an excellent job of documentation without being unnecessarily wordy. Those reporting rarities are sometimes upset over being asked to document carefully their observation, not realizing that it is not merely a question of full verification but also to enable a reader, now or in decades to come, to evaluate the report accurately. Too often good sight records have had to be thrown out for lack of background information.

*This note originally appeared in Volume XXII, No. 1, January, 1972, on pages 20-21.*



## EDITOR'S NOTE

The initial issue of each volume of *The Kingbird* serves basic record-keeping duties for the journal: the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light) are listed and explained, making the corrections accessible and interpretable, in case the errors propagate into other publications or media. Similarly, the species sequence employed in this Volume's Regional Reports is stated here, so that readers will find it easier to browse for species of interest. The species sequence used in Volumes 69-71 has been updated in the present Volume 72 to reflect changes as of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Supplement of the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly Union, AOU). The format of the species accounts has been revised also. The group names dividing the accounts have been abandoned and the divisions between avian families are now shown by spaces between adjacent families in the linear list. Finally, we are pleased to introduce a new map of New

York State's *Kingbird* reporting Regions, depicting important bodies of water and the roads forming Regional boundaries, where these are not county lines.

In last year's Note I mentioned my intention to write a Patch Birding essay about the Moriches Inlet flats. For various reasons, I have placed that project on the back burner and replaced it with a very different perspective on purposeful birdwatching. In the "50 Years Ago" piece, we have once again sought to preserve the original text as closely as possible, including minor errors of spelling and punctuation.

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## CORRIGENDA

Please make note of the following corrections to errors in *The Kingbird*. Some editorial errors, as well as minor errors of punctuation or formatting, will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org, and are indicated here by underline.

KB 70.4 December 2020 through KB 71.3 September 2021

Inside front covers **2021-2022 Officers** should read Oct 2020-Sep 2021 Officers. It has come to our attention that some of the Officers' terms have been incorrectly specified in the print version for some years now, but these will only be corrected in the digital archive for Vol. 70.4 and for all of Volume 71, and will be correct going forward. The Officers' terms, however, have always been correct on the NYSOA website, and can be researched there.

KB 71.1 March 2021

p. 95 In the Hawkwatch table, data is missing for No. Goshawk and Red-shouldered Hawk. The entries should read as follows:

No. Goshawk: Arrival 11/17, Max 1, Max Date 11/17, Total 1

Red-shouldered Hawk: Arrival 11/18, Max 1, Max Date 11/18, Total 1

KB 71.2 June 2021

p. 119 Under Literature Cited, in the Bolsinger J. S. entry, there should be a period after Vol., and in the Bowen, R. V. entry, the word "in" should be capitalized: "...version 1.0. In *Birds of the World*..."

p. 125 In the first paragraph, the fourth line should read "...feeders in early December 2020 and remained until the end of January 2021."

p. 136 In the Abbreviations section, two entries should be changed as follows:

**RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres;

**Tifft NP** – Tifft Nature Pres;

p. 176 In the Abbreviations section, the entry for **BP** is misspelled and should read:

**BP** – Bicentennial P;

p. 197 The second line should read: "...Seymour (Sy) Schiff...". (Parentheses are misplaced).

p. 206 The caption under the photo is missing a space after the © symbol.

KB 71.3 September 2021

pp. 222, 223, and 224 At the top of the charts, after Region 9, Region 10 is not properly justified and the 10 is cut off.

p. 252 In the Abbreviations section **TJer** should be bold font.

- p. 285 In the last paragraph, tenth line, the word Thought should be Though.  
p. 287 In the Abbreviations section, on the last entry, the semicolon should be removed.

KB 71.4 December 2021

Inside front cover **2022-2023 Officers** should read **Oct 2021-Sep 2022 Officers**.

p. 375 In the Abbreviations section, **HI**, **OLC**, **RCFS**, and **RRP** should be bold font.

p. 406 In the last paragraph, line 9, the sentence should begin “In the past...”.

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON–FALL 2021

**Dominic F. Sherony**

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The fall season of 2021 was described by most Regional editors as warmer and wetter than average in September and October, but closer to normal or even a bit cooler in November. Regional mean temperatures in September ranged from near normal to just about 3° F above normal in the eastern Regions, and to about 3° above in several western and central Regions. The remnants of Hurricane *Ida* struck Regions 9 and 10 on 1-2 September with torrential rains, flash flooding, property damage, and loss of life. Additionally, Region 9 experienced 19 days of rain in September, providing good habitat for shorebirds on the flooded fields but creating poor conditions for dabbling ducks and waders elsewhere. Throughout the state, October was one of the warmest on record; temperatures averaged 5-7° above normal. In November temperatures and precipitation were about average, but the early frost was delayed by 19 days in Region 2, and the first freeze recorded at Albany was not until 2 November.

For the season, Regional editors generally reported normal total species counts, and that waterfowl movements were typical, but in Region 6 Jeff Bolsinger found waterfowl numbers generally low. There was a good selection of rare or unusual waterfowl. Cackling Goose was found in all Regions except one, Ross's Goose in five Regions, and Greater White-fronted Goose in six. Barnacle Goose was reported in three Regions and likely represent two different birds based on dates and locations. Most unusual among the geese, a Pink-footed Goose was seen in Regions 9 and 10, perhaps representing the same bird. King Eiders were found in all Regions bordering Lake Ontario but numbers were down from last year's report. Among the rare ducks, a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was found in Region 10; Eurasian Wigeon had a good representation; a Tufted Duck was found in an unusual location in Region 7; and Harlequin Ducks appeared in their usual locations on the Niagara River; also, a pair showed up in October on Lake Ontario, Region 2, and ended up spending the rest of the season as well as the winter there. There was a rare Wood Duck x Mallard hybrid in Region 1.

Two Yellow Rail sightings occurred in Region 4 several days apart, suggesting this might be the same bird. The property owner generously welcomed about 30 birders to come and try for it, allowing a lucky few to obtain great photos.

Sandhill Crane sightings continue to increase. They were reported across the state, with Dave Wheeler calling it “a record-setting year”. The highest numbers still occur upstate, where three Regions reported groups of 100 or more and a maximum of 200 were counted at Montezuma NWR. In Region 9, 145 were seen flying southeast from coastal Westchester on 23 November. Even in Region 10, where they are still rare, a few flyovers were recorded in Manhattan.

Shorebirds were well represented at locations that had adequate habitats, but dry conditions were unfavorable in some Regions. Through the fall, there was a good mix of shorebirds but no unusual numbers. American Golden-Plover was seen in every Region with a single high count of 99 in Region 1. Some Regionally rare species included Stilt Sandpiper in Region 8, Baird’s Sandpipers in Cortland County, Western Sandpiper in Region 5, and Long-billed Dowitchers in Regions 4, 5, and 6. Sandy Pond in Region 5 had good shorebird conditions and produced two outstanding rarities: a first state record Snowy Plover and a third state record Common Ringed Plover in September.

It was a good fall for jaegers upstate. Parasitic Jaeger was found in Regions 1, 2, 5, and 9; Pomarine and Long-tailed in Regions 2 and 5, plus nine reports of jaeger species in Region 1, and ten in Region 2.

Following an influx of Razorbills on the St. Lawrence River in Quebec, the species was reported from five upstate Regions (1, 2, and 5, on Lake Ontario, and very unusual for Regions 7 and 8 on Lake Champlain). Expected in Region 10, the species was reported at a totally typical arrival date.

Most of the rare gulls showed, but Franklin’s Gull is becoming scarcer; we had only one report.

A Pacific Loon flew past Hamlin Beach in October and another was on Cayuga Lake in late November. High counts of migrant loons on Lake Ontario in Region 2 show significantly decreased numbers when compared with counts ten and twenty years ago. It was formerly typical for high count days of more than 1,000 loons of both species, and some years had a high day count of 3,000. In more recent times, single day peak loon counts at Hamlin Beach are a few hundred. These comparisons would need more detailed surveys to determine their accuracy. But they indicate that the number of migrant loons may have decreased substantially. There also are indications that peak numbers of wintering ducks are lower.

A White-faced Storm-Petrel was found on a pelagic trip 10 October, late for that species, and a Northern Fulmar, usually offshore, was seen from the seawatch on Long Island on 29 October.

A Wood Stork was photographed in the town of Clarkson, Monroe County in Region 2 on 11 October. Another unusual sighting was a Magnificent Frigatebird seen over Oneida Lake on 27 September—an inland location with no extreme weather that might have brought the bird there. In Region 10, Brown

Boobies were recorded on Staten Island 11-19 September, from Robert Moses State Park 5, 9, and 13 October, and from the Orient Point ferry 2 November. Sightings of this species have increased noticeably in the past several years along the coast. Northern Gannets were reported from several upstate Regions where they are unusual to say the least. The first for Region 1 since 2013 was seen on 18 November; several observers noted one in Region 2 on 19 November; Region 5 had its first county record 18-19 November; and Region 7's second record ever appeared on 6 November. Down in Region 10, where they are numerous and expected, a max of 10,000 counted at Great Kills Park in Staten Island was an amazing sight, and described by the observers as likely undercounted.

An incursion of Cattle Egrets to the northeast this fall was well-documented in our state, with multiple reports from every Region. Jeff Bolsinger in Region 6 commented the species was well reported, with up to six at a time being seen at Dog Hill Road, and at other locations for a total of 10, a change from the single or zero reports that are the norm. Region 9 started out with a record 15 sighted, with more to follow over the season, and Region 10 documented birds at no fewer than 12 locations, with a max of four in Orient. A rare Great White Heron, was found at Marshlands Conservancy in Region 9 on 7 September and was seen again for most of October.

A White Ibis in Orange County, Region 9, was seen by many birders. The Roseate Spoonbill that originally appeared at Montezuma NWR in July continued there through mid-September.

A total of 38,949 raptors were seen at six hawk watch sites in the state this fall. There were 154 Golden Eagles, the majority at Franklin Mountain in Region 4, 219 Peregrine Falcons, the majority at Fire Island in Region 10, and 12,985 Broad-winged Hawks, the majority at Mount Peter in Region 9. Two Northern Goshawks were recorded from Franklin Mountain, and there were four other reports scattered around the state. Rare raptors included two Swallow-tailed Kites, one in Cortland County, Region 4, on 12 September and the other found in Yates County, Region 3, in August which stayed through mid-September. A Mississippi Kite in Albany County, Region 8, was briefly seen. Three Swainson's Hawks were reported, one each in Regions 2, 9, and 10. The immature Swainson's in Region 2 lingered for several days in the front yard of a homeowner. Many people got to see this bird, but unfortunately, it died.

Jeff Bolsinger of Region 6 reported that the fall passerine migration was much more active than the previous two years, with moderate to heavy migration for much of the season, except for an extended period during the first half of October. He cited 60 reports of Philadelphia Vireo. In other Regions, passerine migration was as expected. However, outside of Region 10, the number of noteworthy passerines were considerably less than last fall, and winter finches did not repeat their remarkable irruption of a year ago.

A Tropical Kingbird found by Richard Veit on Staten Island in Region 10 on 26 September would be a second state record, pending acceptance by NYSARC. At least one observer heard and described the bird's distinctive twittering call in



his eBird report. Adding to the parade of rarities Staten Island recorded this season, a Gray Kingbird showed up on 13 October and remained for 10 days, unlike the usual one-day—or one-minute—wonders they usual are, like the one that was found and quickly vanished at the Fire Island Lighthouse on 13 October. Western Kingbird was a rare find in Region 4, and in Region 1, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at the Dunkirk Airport remained for four days.

Bicknells's Thrush usually migrates along the far eastern corridor; they rarely appear further west, but one was banded at the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory in Region 2 this fall. Northern Wheatears were found in Regions 5 and 10.

A Lark Sparrow in Region 3 was a great find. LeConte's Sparrow is very seldom seen but one remained for four days at Croton Point Park in Region 9. It was another good year for Connecticut Warblers with 50 reports from seven Regions, and a season high of over 20 in Region 10. A Townsend's Warbler identified by an eBird reviewer from a photograph two weeks after it was first seen on 13 September was a first record for Region 1. A cooperative Townsend's Warbler was present for two days at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn in Region 10. Dickcissels are more common in Regions 9 and 10, but they were reported from six other Regions this fall.

Of the more than 330 species reported in the Regional reports, this summary highlights only a few seen this fall, and focuses on some of the rarer species. I would strongly recommend that readers look through the quarterly Regional summaries for more details. The reports provide insights and context, as well as interesting information on banding and tagging data. For example, Dave Wheeler's Region 5 report presents a summary of the tracking results of the MOTUS stations around the state and beyond, revealing fascinating insights into the tagged birds' schedules and routes as they migrate south. Today, there are about 23 MOTUS receiver stations in New York State, a wildlife tracking system that uses automated radio telemetry to simultaneously track hundreds of individuals of numerous species of birds, bats, and insects. Eventually, the plan is to install more sites throughout the United States to of migrating birds than can be obtained by banding alone.

No doubt, it is a difficult task to name the Bird of the Season. Among the many rare birds reported, gems like Common Ringed Plover and Tropical Kingbird were not even the rarest, and it seems best to consider a number of different criteria:

Rarest NYS bird of the season: Snowy Plover

Most well seen bird of the season: Razorbill

Prettiest bird of the season: Townsend's Warbler

Most lost bird of the season: Magnificent Frigatebird

Most secretive bird of the season: Yellow Rail

A first record for New York State that was furthermore seen by many and is in fact very pretty seems like a solid resumé, so I will choose the Snowy Plover as the Bird of the Season.

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Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird:  
eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD\_relNov-2021. Cornell Lab of Ornithology,  
Ithaca, New York. Nov 2021.

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## **REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER**

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September 2021 was a warm and wet month, finishing as the eleventh warmest and nineteenth wettest on record for Buffalo. The mean temperature was 66.5° F, 3.1° above normal, with 5.28" of precipitation, 1.18" above average. A particularly strong southwest wind and rain event on the 24<sup>th</sup> contributed to some exceptional birds along the Buffalo waterfront. The warm temperatures continued into the first half of October, followed by more typical, autumn-like conditions for the second half. The mean temperature was 59.4°, 7.7° above average. Precipitation was 6.14", 2.11" above average. November brought the first snows of the season and finished with fairly typical temperatures and precipitation for the month. The average temperature was 42.2°, 1.2° above normal. Rainfall was 3.28", 0.22" below normal and there was 5.0" of snow, 2.8" below normal.

Waterfowl migration was typical for recent years, which has shown a later movement of dabblers and geese. Two juvenile Ross's Geese entertained many birders on the Buffalo waterfront during a three week stay in November with near daily sightings; they were found by Rebecca Ploeger. There were three Greater White-fronted Goose reports, with a maximum of seven at Iroquois NWR on 24 November. Brant were sighted on only several occasions this fall, with all being along Lake Ontario as usual. A maximum of 32 Cackling Geese was recorded in Lyndonville, where a reservoir in the village makes for pleasant viewing conditions to search for the smaller cacklers among the many Canada Geese. A count of 22 Mute Swans in Waterport is higher than Region 1 is accustomed to, as breeding has been limited in the area compared to the adjacent areas in Ontario

and Rochester. Trumpeter Swans were found at their now regular locations around Iroquois NWR and vicinity, while two in Hanover on 8 October were an unusual location and date. Tundra Swans arrived on 20 October.

The most unusual waterfowl sighting this fall was of a Wood Duck x Mallard hybrid described by Chris Wood and Mitchell Barry at Batavia WWTP in early September. Joel Strong found the only King Eider this fall with an immature male off Golden Hill SP. There were three reports of Harlequin Duck, including one at Niagara Falls SP, where it has been a regular in recent years. There were Surf Scoter and Black Scoter reports just a little earlier than usual in September, and it was a typical season in which numbers of these species were dwarfed by the much more numerous White-winged Scoter. Chris Bertola had a good count of 1,250 Bufflehead at the Niagara River in Buffalo on 24 November, which is on target for the peak of their migration phenology. Numbers of Hooded Mergansers have increased this century with the highest counts occurring in November, and a few counts above one hundred are now normal for the month.

Sandhill Cranes were on the move on 25 November, with flyover flocks of 36 and 30 observed from Tiffitt NP and over North Collins, perhaps the same group. On the same day, 19 were tallied at Oak Orchard WMA.

Fall shorebird migration was not especially bountiful at any particular location; however, collectively, there were some nice species highlights this season. Joel Strong found a large group of American Golden-Plovers during the BOS October Count in Orleans County; the count of 99 is the highest in Region 1 this century. Whimbrel was reported from two locations in early September. A Hudsonian Godwit in an agricultural field puddle in Yates in early November was another nice find by Joel Strong. Baird's Sandpipers were reported from five locations, continuing the good showing from August. There were three reports of White-rumped Sandpiper, including one photographed on Wilson Pier on the late side 20-21 November. Four reports of Buff-breasted Sandpiper were a treat in September; many birders were able to see one at Buffalo Outer Harbor over a two-day period.

The strong southwest winds and lake effect rain on 24 September brought out the birders to the Niagara River in Buffalo. Five Red-necked Phalaropes, three Parasitic Jaegers, two Black-legged Kittiwakes, Sabine's Gull, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, and Black Tern were well worth it for those braving the elements.

There were three other Parasitic Jaeger reports and eight jaeger species reports for the season, plus three other Black-legged Kittiwake reports. Bonaparte's Gulls were plentiful late in the season. Tim Lenz counted 11 Little Gulls among the Bonaparte's Gulls leaving the Niagara River for roosting on Lake Ontario in the late afternoon of 20 November. Other gull highlights included a Laughing Gull at Olcott on 13 November, two "Thayer's" Gull reports, and a count of 13 Lesser Black-backed Gulls inland at Cuba Lake on 11 October. Great Black-backed Gulls are still regular but in nowhere near the numbers of years past. It is telling that the seasonal high count for Lesser Black-backed was higher than that of Great Black-backed (13 to 7).

Willie D'Anna received a tip from Canadian birders that Razorbills were being reported in higher numbers than usual on the St. Lawrence River in Quebec in September, and then some made it to the Ottawa area in early October. The prediction was that Razorbills would be found on Lake Ontario this fall, and it turned out to be correct. Following a late October nor'easter, the spotting scopes were up around Lake Ontario, with flyby **Razorbill** sightings from Krull County Park and Fort Niagara SP. A large alcid species report from that same day of 30 October at Golden Hill SP was likely a Razorbill, as was one on 14 November at Fort Niagara SP. More obliging was a Razorbill found by Joel Strong and Willie D'Anna at Fort Niagara SP that was first seen flying upriver and then back out to the lake where it was viewed foraging in late November. Stay tuned for the winter season report with more Razorbill excitement from this location.

Ryan Griffiths spotted an immature Northern Gannet from Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, that U.S. birders chased to observe from Fort Niagara SP on 18 November. This was the first gannet for Region 1 since 2013.

Cattle Egrets were scattered throughout the Region with four reports in November. Late October through November has been the time period for the most reports of this species, and it is puzzling why that is and uncertain where they are coming from. Gale VerHague photographed a dark ibis in flight to the northeast on 12 September in Dunkirk. The photos were not considered to be enough to identify to species, other than Glossy/White-faced Ibis; a fine record regardless.

Black Vultures continued around the known Lewiston roost, with a maximum of five reported this season. Gale VerHague also found one at Point Gratiot, which is a noteworthy record outside of the Lewiston vicinity. Rough-legged Hawks were well-represented this season, with numerous sightings throughout the Region, and Red-shouldered Hawks were well reported, mostly in the Southern Tier counties.

The first Snowy Owl of the season showed up on the recently constructed breakwall in Olcott, which attracted several more over the season. Though no Long-eared Owls were reported for the fall, there were a handful of Northern Saw-whet Owl reports, including an impressive 19 banded at Wethersfield by David and Sandy Junkin.

The Region's fifth and sixth records for **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** were found on 18 and 19 October, respectively, if accepted by NYSARC. Mitchell Barry reported one flying over the windshield of his car and landing in a tree while he was driving on the NYS Thruway in Pembroke on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Despite several birders subsequently searching for the bird, it was not refound. The very next day, Gale VerHague reported one from the Dunkirk Airport. Much to the delight of area birders, this rarity stuck around for four days, providing ample opportunity for viewing and photographing.

The first Northern Shrike of the season was reported on 24 October, with two more reported in October and 18 reported throughout the Region in November. Alex Colucci reported an impressive count of eight Fish Crows from Niagara Falls

and three other reports came from Buffalo in October and November, where this species is becoming regular.

The winter finch activity paled in comparison to last fall's irruption event. The only Evening Grosbeak report of the season came from Krull County Park on 21 November, where Eric Schill managed to get a recording of the "peer" call. Common Redpolls were scarce with only two reports for the Region. No crossbills were reported within the Region.

No rare sparrows were reported during fall migration. A late Grasshopper Sparrow continued until 3 October in Sheridan and several reports of Chipping and Field Sparrow into late November were getting late for these species and potentially represent lingerers into winter. Mike Morgante counted an impressive 104 Swamp Sparrows at Tonawanda WMA on 9 October during a slow, 2-mile hike around the drawn-down Wood Marsh. Bill Massaro photographed a late male Baltimore Oriole at his feeding station on 22 November.

Connecticut Warblers made a great showing this season, with six reports from Erie County and one from Chautauqua County between 13-24 September. Sue Barth photographed a very late first year Northern Parula on 20 November at Beaver Island SP. The warbler highlight of the season came as a big surprise when Alec Humann was reviewing eBird photographs from Erie County. He came across Ken Czworka's photograph of a **Townsend's Warbler** that was misidentified as a Black-throated Green Warbler. Unfortunately, this was discovered nearly two weeks after the photograph was taken, so the warbler was long-gone by then. This represents the Region's first record for this species, which was nicely documented with Ken's photographs.

The 86<sup>th</sup> BOS October Count was held on 9 October on a warm (high of 71° F) and cloudy day. This count, compiled by Marcie Jacklin, includes both Region 1 and the adjacent area to the west in Ontario, Canada. A total of 208 birders on both sides of the border contributed to tallying 160 species totaling 106,333 birds. This count set several record high counts since the first count in 1935, including Black-bellied Whistling Duck (1 on Canadian side; first count record), Lesser Black-backed Gull (7), Least Bittern (1), Great Egret (198), Turkey Vulture (1294), Cooper's Hawk (49), Barred Owl (12), Red-bellied Woodpecker (318), Merlin (20), Blue Jay (2283), Fish Crow (1; first count record), Barn Swallow (93), Baltimore Oriole (1), Yellow Warbler (1), and Northern Cardinal (596). This represents the third year in a row that Cooper's Hawk set a new high record (38 last year) and second year in a row for Merlin (12 last year). Greater Yellowlegs set the only record for low count, with two individuals tallied.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AISP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSOC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society 09 Oct Count; **BuffH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **DHSP** – Devil’s Hole SP, NIAG; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **JDSP** – Joseph Davis SP, NIAG; **Krull CP** – Krull CP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **LESP** – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **PG** – Point Gratiot, CHAU; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods NP, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach Nature Pres, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tift NP** – Tift Nature Pres, ERIE; **TRWMA** – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WoBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

**Snow Goose:** arr Newfane NIAG 25 Sep; six Oct records 1 each; max 19 FNSP 18 Nov; 13 Wilson NIAG 19 Nov; Oakfield GENE 24 Nov; Westfield 30 Nov.

**Ross’s Goose:** 2 BuffH 7-27 Nov (RP, mob), seen by many during 3-week stay.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** arr 3 OOWMA 14 Oct (CM); Middleport NIAG 10 Nov (CM); 7 INWR 24 Nov (NK, RB).

**Brant:** arr 16, 102 GHSP 17, 18 Oct (CW, JS); Yates ORLE 31 Oct (CM); 12 PB 16 Nov (JL).

**Cackling Goose:** arr 2, 10 Somerset NIAG 4, 18 Oct; 7 Alexander GENE 14 Oct; max 32 Lyndonville ORLE 10 Nov; 16 OOWMA 21 Nov; 9 INWR 25 Nov.

**Canada Goose:** max 3500 INWR 24 Nov.

**Mute Swan:** 5 WTSP 5 Sep; max 22, 12 Waterport ORLE 17 Oct, 3 Nov; 17 Carlton ORLE 23 Oct.

**Trumpeter Swan:** 5 TWMA 30 Sep; 2 Hanover CHAU 8 Oct; max 9, 6 INWR 18 Oct, 25 Nov.

**Tundra Swan:** arr 7 Dayton CATT 20 Oct; 4 INWR 24 Oct; max 160 NF 27 Nov.

**Wood Duck:** 93 BWWTP 5 Sep; max 207 TWMA 30 Sep; 81 Buffalo ERIE 9 Oct; 48 AISP 15 Oct; 76, 65 OOWMA 27 Oct, 4 Nov.

**WOOD DUCK X MALLARD:** BWWTP 5 Sep (CW, MB), rare hybrid.

**Blue-winged Teal:** 31, 18 BWWTP 23 Sep, 13 Oct; 32 GHSP 26 Sep; max 40 INWR 9 Oct; 24 LBSP 17 Oct; last TRWMA 23 Nov.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 116, 203, 290, 169 BWWTP 10, 24 Sep, 16 Oct, 1 Nov; 75 OOWMA 28 Oct.

**Gadwall:** 25 LBSP 17 Oct; 60 OOWMA 28 Oct; max 72, 136 Tift NP 11, 30 Nov; 33 INWR 13 Nov.

**American Wigeon:** 65 OOWMA 28 Oct; max 150 INWR 24 Nov.

**Mallard:** max 1200 INWR 24 Nov.

**American Black Duck:** 30 GHSP 17 Oct; max 26, 54 OOWMA 28 Oct, 24 Nov; 43 FNSP 11 Nov.

**Northern Pintail:** 29, 100 OOWMA 24 Sep, 28 Oct; 111 GHSP 17 Oct; 144, 55 Wilson NIAG 27 Oct, 3 Nov; 73 FNSP 11 Nov; max 200 INWR 24 Nov.

**Green-winged Teal:** 200 OOWMA 14 Oct; 85 Olcott NIAG 3 Nov; max 1350 INWR 24 Nov (NK, RB).

**Canvasback:** arr BWWTP 15 Oct; GHSP 17 Oct; 2, 30 NF 14, 22 Nov; DH 30 Nov.

**Redhead:** 2, 2 BWWTP 4, 24 Sep; 1, 14 GHSP 26 Sep, 18 Oct; 18 BeSP 18 Oct; max 200 NF 27 Nov.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 6 Tift NP 29 Sep; max 250 Hanover CHAU 25 Oct; 128, 92 North Collins ERIE 30 Oct, 4 Nov; 171 Dayton CATT 14 Nov.

**Greater Scaup:** arr Olcott NIAG, PB 6 Sep; max 197 GHSP 17 Oct; 75 DH 29 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** BWWTP 5 Sep; Buffalo NR 24 Sep; max 75 GHSP 17 Oct; 40 DH 21 Nov.

**King Eider:** arr GHSP 22 Nov (JS); only report.

**Harlequin Duck:** arr 2 FNSP 11 Nov (WD, JK, BP, JS); Olcott NIAG 27 Nov (WD); NFSP 28 Nov (WD, MM, BP, JS).

**Surf Scoter:** arr GHSP 19 Sep (WD, JS), early; 28 Wilson NIAG 27 Oct; max 83 Buffalo NR 29 Oct (JK); 32 BufH 11 Nov; 15 FNSP 11 Nov.

**White-winged Scoter:** arr GHSP 6 Sep; max 323 Olcott NIAG 27 Oct; 83, 214 FNSP 11, 20 Nov; 54 BufH 11 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** arr 2 Buffalo NR 23 Sep (AH), slightly early; max 10 DH 23 Oct; 7 Olcott NIAG 27 Oct; 6 WoBSP 5 Nov; 9 PB 16 Nov; 4 DH 30 Nov.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr GHSP 9 Oct; 354 Olcott NIAG 27 Oct; max 421, 222 GHSP 31 Oct, 13 Nov; 250 Buffalo NR 13 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** arr 2 LBSP 17 Oct; 122 Dayton CATT 14 Nov; 350 BeSP 20 Nov; max 1250 Buffalo NR 24 Nov (CB).

**Common Goldeneye:** arr Amherst ERIE 12 Oct; max 200 NF 17 Nov; 100 Olcott NIAG 26 Nov.

**Hooded Merganser:** 110 INWR 18 Nov; max 196 Dayton CATT 21 Nov; 85 Cuba L ALLE 28 Nov.

**Common Merganser:** 75 DH 22 Sep; max 300 Sheridan CHAU 20 Oct (MG); 250 Dayton CATT 21 Nov; 150 Cuba L ALLE 29 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 393, 1231 GHSP 31 Oct, 6 Nov; 660 Yates ORLE 31 Oct; max 4500 Westfield CHAU 21 Nov (TL).

**Ruddy Duck:** arr 2, 46, 255, 60 Dayton CATT 11, 30 Sep, 17 Oct, 7 Nov; max 81, 369, 244 BWWTP 24 Sep, 18 Oct, 8 Nov; 70, 60 North Collins ERIE 30 Oct, 16 Nov; 56 ChauL 3 Nov.

**Wild Turkey:** max 37 Bethany GENE 19 Sep.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** max 4 WTSP 9 Oct; release area.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 17 Dayton CATT 7 Nov; max 22 Lakewood ChauL 13 Nov (BR).

**Horned Grebe:** arr Olcott NIAG 6 Sep; max 82 GHSP 30 Oct; 44 FNSP 30 Oct; 41 Hamburg ERIE 8 Nov; 30 PB 20 Nov.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 1, 1, 11 GHSP 12 Sep, 9, 23 Oct; 2 Olcott NIAG 19 Sep; DH 16 Oct; 3 PB 20 Nov.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** reported from five locations in Sep; last BufH 6 Oct.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** last Grand Island ERIE 26 Sep.

**Common Nighthawk:** 10 INWR 5 Sep; max 19, last RWNP 13, 29 Sep (CH, JRB).

**Chimney Swift:** 8 Buffalo ERIE 8 Oct; last 14 INWR 9 Oct.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last Orchard Park ERIE 15 Oct.

**Virginia Rail:** max 3 Tift NP 13 Sep; 2 BWWTP 13 Oct; last TWMA 19 Oct.

**Sora:** BWWTP 17 Oct; last OOWMA, Tift NP 23 Oct.

**Common Gallinule:** last OOWMA 28 Oct.

**American Coot:** max 140, 344 Lakewood ChauL 26 Oct, 13 Nov (BR).

**Sandhill Crane:** 12 TWMA 12 Sep; 17, 19 OOWMA 28 Oct, 25 Nov; 30 North Collins ERIE 25 Nov; max 36 Tift NP 25 Nov (JRB), flyover flocks, record count.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 2 PG 9 Sep; max 6, 12 Porter NIAG 22 Sep, 3 Oct; 3 Albion ORLE 23 Sep; 8, 7, 3 BufH 27 Sep, 3, 13 Oct; 10 Yates ORLE 15 Oct.

**American Golden-Plover:** HBWMA, BufH 5 Sep; TWMA 13 Sep; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 18 Sep; 11 Porter NIAG 22 Sep; 3 Albion ORLE 24 Sep; 16 Cambria NIAG 2 Oct; 19 Somerset NIAG 5 Oct; max, last 99 BOSOC (JS, RW, ph!), highest count in decades.

**Killdeer:** max 105 Porter NIAG 3 Oct; 55, 49 Dayton CATT 6, 14 Nov; 57 Chaffee ERIE 10 Nov.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 12 BufH 9 Sep; last DH 27 Oct.

**Whimbrel:** BufH 5 Sep (AH, SB, JK); PB 6 Sep (AG, CW, MB); only reports.

**HUDSONIAN GODWIT (R1):** Yates ORLE 5, 6 Nov (JS, mob, ph!), rare.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** 2, 2 BufH 3, 18 Sep; 7 DH 15 Sep; last PB 2 Oct.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** TWMA 13 Sep; 2 Porter NIAG 22 Sep; only reports.

**Sanderling:** max 50 DH, 30 WoBSP 5 Sep; 29 BufH, 25 Barcelona CHAU 14 Sep; 3 Sturgeon Point ERIE 19 Oct; 8 DH 22 Oct; 6 GHSP 1 Nov; last 2 BufH 11 Nov.

**Dunlin:** WoBSP 19 Sep; 4 Buffalo NR 23 Sep; max 68 GHSP 1 Nov (JS).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** WTSP 1 Sep; 2 BWWT 6 Sep; PB 6 Sep; DH 7 Sep; continued good showing from Aug; last 2 Porter NIAG 3 Oct.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 14 INWR 1 Sep; 2 Dayton CATT 18 Oct; last INWR 28 Oct, late.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** 2 Porter NIAG 23 Sep; BufH 5, 6 Oct; last Wilson NIAG 20, 21 Nov (BH, PM, ph!), late.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** HBWMA 7 Sep (DC); BufH 8-9 Sep (AH); Porter NIAG 23 Sep (WD, BP); Albion ORLE 23 Sep (CM); good showing.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 16 Porter NIAG 23 Sep; last OOWMA 16 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 10 Porter NIAG 23 Sep; last BufH 3 Oct.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** Hamburg ERIE 2 Sep (SB); only report.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** no reports.

**American Woodcock:** last 2 Holland ERIE 14 Nov.

**Wilson's Snipe:** 14, 11 Dayton CATT 2 Oct, 21 Nov; max 18, 45 OOWMA 28 Oct, 4 Nov.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** last BWWT 17 Oct.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 5 INWR 12 Sep; last RWN 16 Oct.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 15 BufH 8 Sep; 9 OOWMA 14 Oct; last Carlton ORLE 17 Oct.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 9 OOWMA 14 Oct; max 9 Alexander GENE 29 Oct; last 2 Chaffee ERIE 31 Oct.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** 5 Buffalo NR 24 Sep (AH), during wind event; no reports from other days.

**Red Phalarope:** 2 FNPS 7 Nov (RG), as viewed from Ontario side; only report.

**Parasitic Jaeger:** max 3 Buffalo NR 24 Sep (AH); EvSP 26 Sep (NJ); Buffalo NR 1, 13 Nov (SS & JK, mob).

**jaeger species:** Olcott NIAG 6 Sep; 1, 2, 1 Buffalo NR 12, 24 Sep, 1 Nov; GHSP 30 Oct; 1, 1 FNPS 31 Oct, 11 Nov; 2 Krull CP 21 Nov (JS), one probable Pomarine.

**RAZORBILL:** Krull CP 30 Oct (WD, JS, ph!); FNPS 30 Oct (JK, GL); FNPS 28, 29 Nov (WD, BP, JS), part of increased presence on Lake Ontario this fall; *see intro*.

**large alcid species:** GHSP 30 Oct (JS); FNPS 14 Nov (WD, JS, JK); likely Razorbills.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** 2 Buffalo NR 24 Sep; GHSP 30 Oct; Buffalo NR 5-13 Nov; all juveniles.

**Sabine's Gull:** juv Buffalo NR 24 Sep (AH, mob); only report.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 250 Buffalo NR 29 Oct; max 7500 FNPS 20 Nov (TL); 2000 DHSP 27 Nov.

**Little Gull:** 4 Buffalo NR 24 Sep; DH 4 Nov; max 11 FNPS 20 Nov (TL), flying out of NR to roost on lake; 5 Lewiston NR 28 Nov.

**LAUGHING GULL (R1):** Olcott NIAG 13 Nov (JS, WD, ph!), rare.

**Iceland Gull:** arr NFSP 6 Nov; max 4 DHSP (WD, MM, BP) 27 Nov.

**"Thayer's" Iceland Gull:** NFSP 9 Nov (WD); DHSP 27 Nov (TK); only reports.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Olcott NIAG 8, 19 Sep; WoBSP 12 Sep; 1, 3, 7 NFSP 20 Sep, 6 Oct, 27 Nov; PB 23 Sep; max 13 Cuba L. ALLE 11 Oct, high inland count.

**Glaucous Gull:** arr DHSP 24 Nov; NFSP 28 Nov; DH 28 Nov.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 7 Olcott NIAG 25 Nov.

**Herring x Great Black-backed Gull:** GHSP 13 Nov (JS, WD); Krull CP 20 Nov (JS); Long Pt SP CHAU 21 Nov (TL); careful IDs.

**Caspian Tern:** max 32 BufH 1 Sep; last 2 BuSP 2 Oct.

**Black Tern:** 3 Buffalo NR 24 Sep; only report.

**Common Tern:** 53 Olcott NIAG 6 Sep; max 55 Buffalo NR 24 Sep; 40 Buffalo NR 1 Nov; last Hanover CHAU 9 Nov.

**Forster's Tern:** Barcelona CHAU 1 Sep (BR); Buffalo NR 24 Sep (AH); only reports.

**Red-throated Loon:** arr 1, 10 GHSP 23 31 Oct; 11 Yates ORLE 31 Oct; max 222 FNPS 20 Nov (WD, JS); 169 Olcott NIAG 25 Nov.

**Common Loon:** 2 Olcott NIAG 6 Sep; max 63, 55 GHSP 22 Oct, 13 Nov.

**Northern Gannet:** juv FNPS 18 Nov (RG, WD, mob), first found on Canadian side by RG.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 850 DH 24 Sep; max 2000 DH, BH 5 Oct, 1 Nov.

**American Bittern:** last INWR 17 Sep.

**Least Bittern:** TBNP 5 Sep; Grand Island ERIE 20 Sep; West Seneca ERIE 20 Sep; last INWR 9 Oct.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 14 INWR 2 Oct.

**Great Egret:** 28 BWWT 6 Sep; max 117, 104 INWR 10 Sep, 9 Oct; last Gaines ORLE 11 Nov.

**Cattle Egret:** Sheridan CHAU 8 Nov (GV); Hamburg ERIE 12 Nov (JK); Carlton ORLE 20 Nov (TL); Albion ORLE 23-26 Nov (CM); good showing.

**Green Heron:** last INWR 15 Oct.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** last Tift NP 24 Oct.

**Glossy/White-faced Ibis:** DH 12 Sep (GV ph!), flying northeast.

**Black Vulture:** 3 FNSP 4, 15 Sep (WD); PG 9 Sep (GV), unusual location; max 4, 5 Lewiston NIAG 30 Oct, 28 Nov.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 72 Barcelona CHAU 19 Sep; 1294 BOSOC, record high for count; 46 Fredonia CHAU 4 Nov.

**Osprey:** last GHSP 17 Oct.

**Northern Harrier:** max 7 INWR 18 Oct (CM).

**Cooper's Hawk:** 49 BOSOC, record high for count.

**Bald Eagle:** max 5 DH 27 Oct.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** reported from 10 locs in Nov.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** last Harmony CHAU, AmSP 20 Sep.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr Grove ALLE 29 Oct; Yates ORLE 31 Oct; reported from 16 locations in Nov.

**Snowy Owl:** arr Olcott NIAG 16 Nov; BufH 20 Nov; Yates ORLE 21 Nov; Attica WYOM 30 Nov.

**Long-eared Owl:** no reports.

**Short-eared Owl:** arr GHSP 17 Oct; Alfred ALLE 22 Nov; only reports.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Forestville CHAU 14, 15 Oct; total 19 banded Wethersfield WYOM 14 Oct - 5 Nov (DJ&SJ); BMAC 5 Nov; Gerry CHAU 6 Nov.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** max 3 Knox Farm SP ERIE 10 Sep; max 3 PB 12 Sep; four Oct and two Nov reports.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 318 BOSOC, record high for count.

**Northern Flicker:** max 33 Sheridan CHAU 25 Sep.

**Merlin:** 20 BOSOC, record for count.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** last Cassadaga CHAU 16 Sep.

**Eastern Kingbird:** last Orangeville WYOM 11 Sep.

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** Newstead ERIE (MB) 18 Oct, sighted along NYS Thruway; Dunkirk CHAU 19-22 Oct (GV, mob, ph!); 5th and 6th Reg records if both accepted by NYSARC; *see intro*.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** 1, last 1 AmSP 2, 16 Sep; HBWMA 4 Sep; FLC 14 Sep.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** last Lockport NIAG 16 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** 2 WoBSP 10 Sep; 2 AmSP 14 Sep; last Porter NIAG 21 Sep.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** INWR 16 Sep (DB audio), late.

**Alder/Willow Flycatcher:** last AmSP 15 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** last Wellsville ALLE 25 Sep.

**Eastern Phoebe:** Buffalo NR 21 Nov (DB, KD); RWN 29 Nov (SB); latest Nov reports.

**White-eyed Vireo:** 1, 1 WoBSP 25 Sep, 5 Nov (SB ph!), surprising annual fall presence in recent years.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last INWR 20 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** last Cheektowaga ERIE 31 Oct.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 4 WTSP 5 Sep; max 4 AmSP 13 Sep; 3 HBWMA 20 Sep; BWWT 5 Oct; last Perrysburg CATT 10 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** last Orchard Park ERIE 30 Sep.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** last Rushford ALLE 15 Oct.

**Northern Shrike:** arr Krull CP 24 Oct; BWWT 28 Oct; Ischua CATT 31 Oct; reports from 18 locations in Nov.

**Blue Jay:** 2283 BOSOC, record for count.

**Fish Crow:** max 8 NF 4 Sep (AC); 2, 1, 1 Buffalo ERIE 29 Oct, 4 Nov, 24 Nov.

**Common Raven:** max 8 BufH 22 Nov.

**Horned Lark:** 50 Porter NIAG 28 Sep; max 150 Dayton CATT 31 Oct.

**Bank Swallow:** last 3 BWWT 24 Sep.

**Tree Swallow:** 125 BWWT 24 Sep; max 150 INWR 3 Oct; last Dunkirk CHAU 23 Oct.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** max 80 Grand Island ERIE 10 Sep; last 5 INWR 9 Oct.  
**Purple Martin:** last 10 INWR 12 Sep.  
**Barn Swallow:** max 200 Dayton CATT 7 Sep; last BWWT 17 Oct.  
**Cliff Swallow:** last 3 GHSP 12 Sep.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** BuSP 27 Nov, last report for season.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr 2 FLC 15 Sep.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** no reports.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** max 100 Krull CP 28 Nov.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last AmSP 20 Sep.

**House Wren:** last AmSP 23 Oct.  
**Winter Wren:** arr AmSP 2 Sep.  
**Marsh Wren:** OOWMA 15 Nov; INWR 21 Nov; Tift NP 25 Nov; reports from second half of Nov getting on late side.  
**Carolina Wren:** 67 BOSOC.

**Brown Thrasher:** last BeSP 18 Oct.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 32 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 19 Oct.  
**Veery:** last LBSP 26 Sep;  
**Gray-checked Thrush:** arr AmSP, Hamburg ERIE 6 Sep; max 7 Grand Island ERIE 19 Sep (AH), NFCs; last 2 LBSP 17 Oct.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** max 14 Grand Island ERIE 14 Sep (AH), NFCs; last Batavia GENE 24 Oct.  
**Hermit Thrush:** max 9 AmSP 19 Oct; several Nov reports might be ready to linger or winter.  
**Wood Thrush:** last AISP 11 Oct.  
**American Robin:** max 400 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 7 Nov.

**American Pipit:** arr BufH 14 Sep; 20 Dunkirk Airport CHAU, 20 Porter NIAG 26 Sep; max 100 N Collins, Chaffee ERIE 22, 31 Oct; 17 Dayton CATT 13 Nov; 25 WoBSP 20 Nov.

**Evening Grosbeak:** Krull CP 21 Nov (ES), flyover; only report.  
**House Finch:** max 40 Krull CP 17 Sep.  
**Purple Finch:** max 9 LBSP 3 Oct.  
**Common Redpoll:** arr 4 Krull CP 25 Nov; 2 Whirlpool SP NR 28 Nov.  
**Pine Siskin:** arr Grand Island ERIE 30 Sep; max 11, 14 LBSP 20, 21 Oct; 7, 13 Rushford ALLE 9, 20 Nov; 7 BeSP 20 Nov.  
**American Goldfinch:** max 90 AmSP 4 Sep.

**Lapland Longspur:** arr 1, 2 Sheridan CHAU 1, 3 Oct; 2 Middleport NIAG 12 Oct; 2 Somerset NIAG 17 Oct; Dunkirk CHAU 24 Oct; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 4 Nov; 2 Shelby ORLE 10 Nov.  
**Snow Bunting:** arr 3 Dunkirk CHAU 24 Oct; 25 Randolph CATT 28 Oct; 75, 80 Somerset NIAG 5, 17 Nov; max 100 Krull CP 21 Nov; 40 Fredonia CHAU 30 Nov.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** last 2, 1 Sheridan CHAU 1, 3 Oct (GV), late.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** several reports in late Nov getting on late side.  
**Field Sparrow:** several reports in late Nov getting on late side.  
**Fox Sparrow:** arr TBNP 6 Oct; max 5 Ashford CATT 20 Nov.  
**American Tree Sparrow:** arr multiple locations 24 Oct.  
**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr Grand Island ERIE 26 Sep; 18 Sheridan CHAU 7 Oct; max 28 Youngstown NIAG 10 Oct; 18 BeSP 18 Oct.  
**White-throated Sparrow:** arr GHSP 3 Sep; max 110 GHSP 17 Oct.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** Yates ORLE 10 Sep; Sheridan CHAU 25 Sep, 1 Oct; BWWT 15 Oct; last BeSP 22 Oct.  
**Savannah Sparrow:** BufH 28 Nov (AH, JR), late.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Tift NP 11 Sep; West Seneca ERIE 24 Oct; last Sheridan CHAU, INWR 27 Oct.  
**Swamp Sparrow:** max 104 TWMA 9 Oct (MM).  
**Eastern Towhee:** last LBSP 18 Nov.

**Bobolink:** max 25, last 5 TWMA 1, 13 Sep.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** last BufH 10 Nov.  
**Baltimore Oriole:** AmSP 28 Sep; E Aurora ERIE 2-9 Oct; Elma ERIE 22 Nov (BM), late.  
**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 540 TWMA 9 Oct; 500 East Aurora ERIE 30 Oct.  
**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 350 Alabama GENE 2 Nov.  
**Rusty Blackbird:** arr BuSP 23 Sep; 140 INWR 18 Oct; max 200 JDSP 31 Oct.  
**Common Grackle:** 1000 Salamanca CATT 17 Sep; 650 Albion ORLE 22 Sep; max 3000 Orchard Park 4 Oct; 2300 LBSP 23 Oct.

**Ovenbird:** Tift NP 2 Sep; last Forestville CHAU 15 Oct.  
**Northern Waterthrush:** TBNP 4 Sep; last WoBSP 1 Oct.



**Blue-winged Warbler:** last INWR 17 Sep.  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** last RWNP 3 Oct.  
**Tennessee Warbler:** last BuSP 28 Oct.  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr Tift NP 11 Sep; 2 AmSP 19 Sep; last Forestville CHAU, WoBSP 24 Oct.  
**Nashville Warbler:** last Forestville CHAU 15 Oct.  
**Connecticut Warbler:** arr Gerry CHAU (BR); AmSP 13 Sep (BS); Grand Island ERIE 15 Sep (AH); WoBSP 16 Sep (SB); LESP 18 Sep (TL); Tift NP 20 Sep (KR); Newstead ERIE 24 Sep (CR); excellent showing.  
**Mourning Warbler:** Wilson NIAG 2 Sep; AmSP 15 Sep; Chautauqua CHAU, West Seneca ERIE 17 Sep; last Gerry CHAU 19 Sep.  
**Common Yellowthroat:** last West Seneca ERIE 24 Oct.  
**Hooded Warbler:** last 2 Portland CHAU 27 Sep.  
**American Redstart:** last Sturgeon Pt ERIE 19 Oct.  
**Cape May Warbler:** 8 BeSP 3 Sep; max 11 Chautauqua CHAU 23 Sep (KV); last BeSP 8 Oct.  
**Northern Parula:** max 6 Tift NP 12 Sep; last BeSP 20 Nov (SB), late.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** max 12 AmSP 14 Sep (CH); last Grand Island ERIE, Sheridan CHAU 13 Oct.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 14 AmSP 5 Sep (CH); last W Seneca ERIE 9 Oct.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** last Hamburg ERIE 2 Oct.  
**Yellow Warbler:** last Dayton CATT 26 Sep (JM).  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** last BufH 6 Oct.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** 19 LESP 18 Sep (TL); max 25 Chautauqua CHAU 22 Sep (KV); 10 BuSP 1 Oct (RGo); 14 BWWT 5 Oct (JK, SS); last Hamburg ERIE 25 Oct.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** last Elma ERIE 23 Oct.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr 2 TBNP 2 Sep; max 12 West Seneca ERIE 9 Oct (BM); last Dunkirk Airport CHAU 11 Nov (PM).  
**Pine Warbler:** max 5 AISP 11 Sep; last 4 Forestville CHAU 16 Oct.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 60 Krull CP 30 Sep; max 120 Buffalo ERIE 10 Oct (JK).  
**TOWNSEND'S WARBLER:** Tift NP 13 Sep (KC ph!), first for Reg; *see intro*.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 10 Gerry CHAU 18 Sep; last Amherst ERIE, Cambria NIAG 16 Oct.  
**Canada Warbler:** last Wilson NIAG 16 Sep.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** last BufH 10 Oct.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** max 5 Olean CATT 11 Sep; last WoBSP 13 Oct.  
**Northern Cardinal:** 596 BOSOC, record high for count.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** last WoBSP 23 Oct.  
**Indigo Bunting:** last Sheridan ERIE, BeSP 10 Oct.

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## REGION 2—GENESEE

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The fall of 2021 was mostly just a normal, average transition season. September remained warm, with temperatures averaging 64.0° F, 0.4° above normal. There were no temperature extremes, but 25 days reached or exceeded 70°, and the first date below 50° was 20 September, the fourth latest for that event on record. Precipitation totaled 3.16", 0.02" below normal, with 2/3 of that total falling in the two day period 22-23 September. The only serious weather event was on 12 September, with some heavy rains and an EF-1 tornado in the Conesus to Springwater area near the southern edge of the Region. October brought a split month, the first half the second warmest for that period on record, and the second

half bringing a drop toward autumn and leaving the overall temperature average 57.6°, 5.4° above normal, the sixth warmest October on record. There were no days reaching below freezing, and fall foliage color was weeks delayed. It was a wet month, with total rainfall 7.46", 4.24" above normal. Major rainfall events were: 1.22" on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, a record for the date; 1.50" over the 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>; 2.12" on the 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, with 1.81" of that on the 26<sup>th</sup> a record for that date; and 2.02" over the 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>. There was some flooding after the rains on the 26<sup>th</sup> and later. Yet there were only 13 rainy days for the month, one above average, leaving some good birding times. November was another normal fall month, with temperatures averaging 40.6°, 0.9° below normal. Below normal days outnumbered above 2:1. The first frost on 4 November was 194 days since the last below freezing date, 19 days greater than the norm. Precipitation totaled 1.72", 1.04" below average, and snowfall was just 3.9", 4.2" below normal. There was light snow on 3 November and the first lake effect event was not until 28-29 November, when over 1-1/2 feet of snow fell just outside our Region to the south.

In a quick overview of the birding scene, we find most of the recent trends continuing. Overall, the September species count was near the 10-year average at 219 vs. 219.3, October was well above that average at 213 vs. 204.7, and November was well down at 146 vs. 156.2. In the November case, most of our expected species were still reported, but there were few of the extra species found that had pushed the 2020 count to 10 species above the average—e.g. almost no winter finches or late warblers and fewer lingering half-hardy species. This also showed in the November eBird data download at 20,566, down nearly 30% from the 2020 number and erasing a big jump up from 2019 to 2020. The September download was 34,200, close to that for 2020, and for October it was 32,509, about 11% down, probably affected by the heavy rains.

Later in the report, when you look at the species section, you will find that this is the first season where *The Kingbird* will move to the most recent (June 2021) AOS taxonomic species order. Having done these reports for a long time, I will enter the species records in that order but here in the introduction will continue with an order that has long made some sense to me. This should cause very little issue to anyone seriously using the materials.

Turning now to our regular species groupings, we find the waterfowl tracking the trends of the past several years—essentially all expected species reported each month, but with peak counts generally down. As usual, there are interesting details. September was interesting for many of the higher counts being found near the barrier beach island at the mouth of Braddock Bay or passing along the Lake Ontario shore nearby. This year, neither Snow Goose nor Brant were reported in September, after several years of first sightings late in that month. Conditions in the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) in southern Wayne County eliminated most of the good totals usually tallied there. October saw good Brant numbers on the 18<sup>th</sup>, a few good Canada Goose counts, and some good tallies of passing Northern Pintail. We also had the arrival in October of several rarer species: Ross's Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose,

Cackling Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, King Eider, and Harlequin Duck, with a pair of harlequins taking up residence near the Round Pond outlet to Lake Ontario and nearby for what would turn out to be the whole winter. In November, counts of Mallard, Northern Pintail, and Green-winged Teal were back to notable in the NMWMA. With very few exceptions, the counts of diving ducks passing Hamlin Beach remained low. One interesting surprise was a mass of 5000+ mixed Common and Red-breasted Mergansers on Cranberry Pond, Town of Greece on 22 November. It appeared to be due to a concentration of bait fish mainly in the NE part of that pond and was relatively short lived but impressive. Peak grebe counts remained well below expectations, though there were three reports of Eared Grebe as consolation. By November, we were down to no rail or gallinule reports. To end that grouping, the recent trend to large numbers of Sandhill Crane continued, with a maximum of 102 on 31 October and 95 on 7 November in different parts of the NMWMA and numbers continuing into the next season.

Among the goatsuckers, Common Nighthawk was scarce, with the only count above five being 30 on 10 September and none reported in October. There was one rare fall report of an Eastern Whip-poor-will on 16 September in the Town of Hamlin. For Chimney Swift, we had the only really large gathering of 450 on 15 September in Rochester, but none of the usual large migration roosts in early October were reported this fall. Finally, there was only a lone Ruby-throated Hummingbird report into October in Rochester on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Water levels and rainfall patterns left us with little shorebird habitat in September. Still, 26 species were recorded and only Upland Sandpiper and Wilson's Phalarope might be classed as misses. Especially interesting species were: Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, and Buff-breasted Sandpiper. However, peak counts were low and this continued into October. The heavy rains in October continued the habitat issues, then with too much water in many places. In October, 18 species were reported and only White-rumped Sandpiper and Red-necked Phalarope were expected species missed. Wilson's Phalarope was reported on the record late date of 16 October at the south end of Irondequoit Bay. Eight species of shorebirds lingered into November in small numbers other than a decent count of 405 Dunlin passing Hamlin Beach on 2 November. Purple Sandpiper was a bit late in arriving and with few reports through season's end.

Moving on to the larids and relatives, we had another good fall for jaegers, down a bit from 2020 but still: one Pomarine Jaeger on 31 October, ~42 Parasitic Jaegers from 10 September to 1 November, one **Long-tailed Jaeger** on 24 September, and at least 10 jaegers not identified to species. Late October brought an influx of **Razorbills** into the Lake Ontario basin, and we had reports of at least three, possibly as many as six, individuals from 30 October to 2 November, with an exact count requiring more details on timing than available. In addition, there were several reports of 5+ Black-legged Kittiwakes in single viewing sessions in the 27-30 October period plus at least one more in November. Bonaparte's Gull numbers were low, but there were three Little Gulls recorded in October and November, Lesser Black-backed Gull counts were good, and the white-winged

gulls of winter both arrived on 6 November but remained scarce. Generally, our regular gulls and terns were present through expected dates in typical numbers. No really rare gulls or terns were reported.

Loon counts were generally poor. The fall's first Red-throated Loon was early, recorded on 3 September. Typically Common Loon passes the 100 number for a day's watch in September, but this year that peak was only 59. The season's peaks for the two regular species passing Hamlin Beach were Red-throated Loon 272 on 28 November and Common Loon 234 on 1 November, both low. The crossover time from more Common to more Red-throated Loons is typically about 10 November. A **Pacific Loon** was noted passing Hamlin Beach on 30 October by Chris Wood, and a Northern Gannet there by several observers on 19 November. There were good peak counts for Double-crested Cormorant each month, and a report of a **Great/Double-crested Cormorant** seen near Sodus Point by Tim Lenz on 14 November. The Region's seventh and same or eighth **Wood Stork** records were of photographed individuals in the Town of Clarkson, Monroe County near Brockport on 8 October by Steve Davis and Christa Filipowicz and about 10 miles north at Bald Eagle Creek Marina, Orleans County on 11 October by Jacob Bensley, *et al.*. Great Egret lingered at the Conesus Inlet WMA from 25-30 November, and Cattle Egret records include: one in the NMWMA along Armitage Road on 17 October, two on Hogmire Road in the Nations Road IBA on 31 October, one in Webster on 9 November, and a last at the Braddock Bay - East Spit area on 20 November. The other herons and egrets were noted to typical departure dates.

Next, the raptors and remainder of the non-passerines. We start with the broken record of no Black Vulture or Northern Goshawk records for the season and few Red-shouldered Hawk reports. Fall diurnal raptor records of interest are often sparse, but working through we have: Osprey to 2 November; Bald Eagle reports dropping off as expected but still good; a latest Broad-winged Hawk on 25 October; a surprise immature **Swainson's Hawk** near the home of G. McGrain (plus 13+ other observers) on Beadle Road near Brockport from 14-15 October, unfortunately dying; and Rough-legged Hawk arriving on 11 October, with numbers relatively low through season's end. Among the owls, we start with 19 reports of about 11 different Snowy Owls from 19-30 November. Short-eared Owl was first reported on 11 October at Burger Park near Braddock Bay and then in small numbers on both the regular DEC owl surveys and by birders searching the usual wintering sites. A rare, fall Long-eared Owl report was from the Owl Woods area along Manitou Beach Road on 19 September and heard again there by owl banders on 26 September. Northern Saw-whet Owl banding there netted two on 30 September and 21 more from 5-23 October, with a foreign retrap on 23 October. Other N. Saw-whet Owls were found at three other sites; overall a good showing for the owls. As usual, records for our three regular falcons remained stable, with American Kestrel numbers up a bit. The woodpeckers produced no outstanding notes; the most interesting were Red-headed Woodpecker remaining scarce and gone by mid-October, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker back to normal

lingering numbers following a couple of winters with high numbers. As a sort of transition species, Northern Shrike arrived on 24 October and about 10 individuals were reported at seven locations in November.

With lots of birder activity in this Region, it is typical now that essentially all of the expected species (for a given month) are at least reported each month. The interesting notes are all in the details. In September, migration seemed generally to be shifted toward earlier dates, and this feel continued through October. Rarer species recorded in September included: Fish Crows appearing at more sites; a **Bicknell's Thrush** banded; a "Lawrence's" Warbler hybrid; seven Orange-crowned Warblers, one banded; four Connecticut Warblers, with two of these banded at BBBO; and three Dickcissels. Details can be found in the species section. Species with higher numbers banded, in parentheses after the name, included: Ruby-crowned Kinglet (87), Swainson's Thrush (293), Gray Catbird (30), White-throated Sparrow (220), Magnolia Warbler (137), and Blackpoll Warbler (468). Black-capped Chickadee was in a low year of its alternate-year see-saw numbers, with only two banded in September and 12 more added later vs. 551 banded last fall. Many of our passerine migrants have the last quartile of their departure-date distributions extending into October or even a bit beyond, so there is high variability in which species and how many in total will be found after September. In October, only Warbling Vireo, Blackpoll Warbler, and Indigo Bunting were reported to dates beyond the latest in our 1985 Monroe County Checklist, and in those cases there have been other records beyond those dates in the 46 intervening years, so none were record late departures. Also, only two banding totals this fall were more than two standard deviations from their 10-year averages, Tennessee Warbler—high, and Yellow Warbler—low, and most were less than one standard deviation from their average. Wrapping up with a few more notes, we have 18 species of warblers in October, winter finches very few, and **Nelson's Sparrow** the only scarcer species in October. Into November, there was a reasonable list of half-hardy species found, but the list was much shorter and numbers well down from those of the past two late fall summaries. There were really no special species, no significant numbers for irruptive species, and almost no concentrations of wintering field-bird species, probably due to no snow coverage.

As always, it was a season with some interesting highlights but overall just basically "normal".

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**b** – banded; **BB** – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** or **BB-WS** – east or west spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay; **BB-HW** – Braddock Bay hawkwatch; **BBBO** – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, banding station near end of Manitou Beach Rd west of Braddock Bay; **CL** – Conesus L, LIVI; **G** – T Greece, MONR; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HANA** –

High Acres Nature Area, T. Perinton, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **HB-WE** – West End Trail in HB includes Devil’s Nose area; **HB-YC** – Yanty Creek trail area at east end of park; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – LaSalle Landing P, South end of Irondequoit Bay; **IB P** – **W** – Irondequoit Bay P West, T of Irondequoit along SW side of the bay, MONR; **LSP** – Letchworth SP; **M** – along Manitou Beach Rd NE of Lake Ontario Parkway including the BBBO banding station, MONR; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (formerly Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex), WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – muck fields along Armitage Rd.; **NMWMA (CR)** – Carncross Road; **NMWMA (GBM)** – Guy Baldassarre Marsh; **NMWMA (SCU)** – Sandhill Crane Unit; **NMWMA (VDSR)** – Van Dyne Spoor Rd. area; **OB** – Ontario Beach area, Charlotte, MONR; **PtB** – Point Breeze, ORLE, border of Regions 1 & 2 at Lake Ontario; **Spt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC; **W** – Town of Webster, MONR; **WP** – Webster P, MONR.

**Snow Goose:** arr North Pds P, Webster 2 Oct; max 100 NMWMA (VDSR) 8 Nov (MHau).

**Ross’s Goose:** 1 imm TECA 22, 24 Oct (MW, MG, fT).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** arr Church Rd, H 9, 11-15 Oct (AGu, 5 oth obs); Hogan Pt Rd, G 12 Oct (JiM, 4 oth obs); N Hamlin Rd 20, 23 Oct (AGu, 12 oth obs); 3 HB 10, 14 Nov (AGu, NU, NR).

**Brant:** arr 55-2135 ind 8 loc 18 Oct (14+ obs); max 2135 HB 18 Oct (GL, DSh, CW); 1257 SPT 18 Oct (MTe).

**Cackling Goose:** arr 5 HB 19 Sep (AGu); total ~30 ind 14+ loc 18-31 Oct; ~43 ind 15 loc Nov; max 9 HB 20 Oct (AGu).

**Canada Goose:** max 5000 nr Mt Morris exit from I-390 LIVI 28 Nov (JaS, Je&AS, KS), low max.

**Snow x Canada Goose:** Church Rd, H 14 Nov (AGu).

**Mute Swan:** max 150 IB-S 29 Oct.

**Trumpeter Swan:** 80 NMWMA (SCU) 11 Sep (BHac, AN, EW); max 125 NMWMA (AR) 9 Nov (R&SSp).

**Tundra Swan:** arr 2 Buck Pd, G 23 Oct; max 250 NMWMA (AR) 19 Nov (7 obs); 192 CL-N 26 Nov (TBo).

**Tundra/Trumpeter Swan:** 500 NMWMA (West Shore Trail) 21 Nov (RCo).

**Wood Duck:** max 140 BB-ES 23 Sep (MB), fall max.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 90 NMWMA (SCU) 6 Sep (JoGB, BRo, MBab); 68 BB-ES 3 Oct (GL), good count for loc.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 36 HB 18 Oct, good number for date.

**Gadwall:** max 64 Round Pd, G 15 Nov, good count.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** 1 ad m Long Pd, G 15 Oct (JeB, CW), only rep.

**American Wigeon:** max 266 off Edgemere Dr, G 5 Oct (MB).

**Mallard:** 500 NWMA (VDSR) 6 Nov (14 obs).

**American Black Duck:** max 274 HB 18 Oct (GL, DSh, CW), good count.

**Northern Pintail:** 2010 HB 18 Oct; max 4000 NWMA (VDSR) 6 Nov (RZ).

**Green-winged Teal:** 336 HB 18 Oct; max 1000 NWMA (VDSR) 6 Nov (RZ). Oct (AGu), low max.

**Canvasback:** arr 2 BB-ES 19 Oct; max 27 HB 7 Nov, low max.

**Redhead:** arr 2 BB-ES 2 Sep, early; max 500 CL-N 30 Nov.

**Ring-necked Duck:** arr 2 BB 5 Sep; max 130 Buck Pd, G 18 Oct.

**Greater Scaup:** arr PtB 6 Sep; max 258 HB 17 Oct, low max.

**Lesser Scaup:** arr 1-2 HB 10 Sep; max 128 off Edgemere Dr, G 11 Nov, low max.

**King Eider:** 5 SPT 31 Oct (TL, ph); 1 basic m HB 5 Nov (RSp, BHaa).

**Harlequin Duck:** arr 1 f & 1 f HB 30 Oct (MGi, AGu, CW); AGu; 1-2 off Edgemere Dr, G to Round Pd Outlet, G Nov (mob, phs).

**Surf Scoter:** arr 2 f HB 19 Sep (AGu), early; max 28 HB 18 Oct.

**White-winged Scoter:** arr HB 3 Sep (AGu), early; max 1059 HB 18 Oct (GL, DSh, CW), low max.

**Black Scoter:** arr HB 1 Oct; max 23 HB 2 Nov, low max.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr HB 30 Sep; max 1375 HB 6 Nov (AGu), good count.

**Bufflehead:** arr BB-ES 15 Oct; max 126 HB 15 Nov.

**Common Goldeneye:** arr HB 16 Oct; max 150 BB 11 Nov.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 207 Conesus Inlet WMA 25 Nov (NK).

**Common Merganser:** max 100 Beechwood SP, WAYN 2 Sep, low max.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 2330 HB 2 Nov (AGu), good count.

**Common/Red-breasted Merganser:** max 5000+ Cranberry Pd, G 22 Nov (R&SSp), huge feeding frenzy, *intro*.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 19 Long Pd, G 15 Oct (CW).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 58 BB-ES 9 Oct (AGu).

**Horned Grebe:** arr HB 10 Sep; max 60 West Port Bay WAYN 6 Nov, low max.

**Red-necked Grebe:** 1-10 HB Sep; max 78 HB 1 Nov, low max.

**Eared Grebe:** HB 30 Oct (AGu, CW); IB-S 10 Nov (JWi, 14+ oth obs); SPT 21 Nov (JMcG).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** last BBBO 15 Sep.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** last Nunda-Dalton Rd, LIVI 11 Oct (JGo).

**Common Nighthawk:** max 30 NMWMA (SCU) 10 Sep, low max; last BB P 25 Sep.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** T Hamlin 1 Sep (AGu), rarely reported in fall.

**Chimney Swift:** max 450 Blossom Rd, Rochester 15 Sep, only large gathering; last 6 Ellison P, T Penfield 12 Oct.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 423 eBird lines Sep, many rep; last Rochester 11 Oct (JoP).

**Virginia Rail:** Beatty Pt, G 18 Oct (CW).

**Sora:** last Sandra L Frankel NP, T Brighton MONR 23 Oct.

**Common Gallinule:** max 50 NMWMA (GBM) 6 Sep; last NMWMA (VDSR) 28 Oct (DA).

**American Coot:** max 85 IB-N 25 Nov, low max.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 102 NMWMA (Olmstead Rd) 31 Oct (KRo); 95 NMWMA (West Shore trail) 7 Nov (W&MR); high counts, but more reported just outside this Reg.

**Black-bellied Plover:** last BB-ES 13 Nov (AGu).

**American Golden-Plover:** max 31 Moscow & Redman Rds, H 22 Sep, low max; last N Hamlin Rd 23 Oct.

**Killdeer:** max 115 T Walworth WAYN 10 Sep (MGU); last DK's Woods, LIVI 14 Nov (RSm).

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 37 BB-ES 5 Sep; last BB-ES 15 Oct.

**Upland Sandpiper:** no reports.

**Whimbrel:** PtB 6 Sep (MB, AGu, CW); BB-ES 9 Sep (NR); last SPT 6, 14, 15 Sep (TL, JiW, MGU).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** SPT 8 Sep (MGU, ph); BB-ES 22 Sep (MGU, 11 oth obs, ph).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** max 6 SPT 1 Sep, low max; last PtB 2 Oct.

**Red Knot:** SPT 15, 16 Sep (MGU, JWi, JWo, ph); BB-ES 18-26 Sep (MGU, 11 oth obs, ph); last 2 off Edgemere Dr, G 28 Sep (MB).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** last 4 NMWMA (AR) 24 Oct.

**Sanderling:** max 27 HB 3 Sep (AGu).

**Dunlin:** max 405 HB 2 Nov (RSp).

**Purple Sandpiper:** arr SPT 20-22 Nov (MGU, 8 oth obs, ph).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** last SPT 26 Sep.

**Least Sandpiper:** last 6 NMWMA (AR) 24 Oct.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** last BB-ES 24 Sep, early dep.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** Rt 98 N of Rt 104, T Carlton ORLE 13 Sep (CMor), only rep.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** last NMWMA (AR) 28 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 73 Hemlock L – S 5 Sep, low max; last BB-ES 16-17 Nov (CGi, MGU, JiM, KS, ph).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** last BB-ES 21 Sep.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** last NMWMA (AR) 28 Oct.

**American Woodcock:** Montezuma Audubon Center 18 Nov (MMi), late.

**Wilson's Snipe:** last NMWMA (VDSR) 30 Oct.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** last BB-ES 12 Oct.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** last 2 loc 25 Sep.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 45 NMWMA (AR) 23 Oct (RMCG); last NMWMA (AR) 28 Oct.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 35 NMWMA (AR) 20 Oct (DSH, MTe); last 2 Wolcott WAYN 20 Nov (W&MR).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** IB-S 16 Oct (JiM, LM), Reg record late; NMWMA (ARd) 17 Oct (MGU), Reg record late.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** arr off Edgemere Dr, G 28 Sep (MB); BB – ES 13 Sep (JiM, LM, 3 oth obs); 4 HB 16 Sep (AGu), passing.

**Red Phalarope:** off Edgemere Dr, G 17 Oct (JeB, KaB, CW).

**Red-necked/Red Phalarope:** HB 23 Sep (AGu).

**Pomarine Jaeger:** SPt 31 Oct (BHac, GSHal, RZ), only rep.

**Parasitic Jaeger:** total ~26 ind 8 loc 10-29 Sep; ~15 ind 7 loc 8-31 Oct (16+ obs); last SPt HB 1 Nov.

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** 1BB-ES 24 Sep (ST).

**jaeger species:** total 5 ind 2 loc 1-18 Sep (4 obs); total 5 ind 3 loc 18-31 Oct (5 obs).

**RAZORBILL:** 2 SPt 30 Oct (JMcG, LS, ph), 4<sup>th</sup> Reg record; SPt 30 Oct (19+ oth obs, phs), likely 1 of prior 2; HB – PL4 30 Oct (CW, phs), 9:21; HB – PL5 30 Oct (AGu), 10:16; BB-ES 30 Oct (CW), 2:49 PM; HB – PL5 31 Oct (CW, JGar), 10:15; HB – PL4 31 Oct (JaG, RR), 11:12; off Edgemere Dr, G 2 Nov (MB), *intro*, hard to establish a good number of individuals.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** arr off Edgemere Dr, G 27 Oct (MB); 6 HB – PL5 (AGu); 5 HB – PL4 27 Oct, later (AGu); 5 HB – PL4 30 Oct (CW); Sandbar P, Webster 30 Oct (GF); 2 off lighthouse museum, SPt 30 Oct (TL); 1 imm SPt 10 Nov (RN); total hard to assess, typically passing migrants.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 143 Long Pd – Northrup Crk, G 15 Oct, low max.

**Little Gull:** 1 ad off Edgemere Dr, G 30 Oct (MB); 1 ad HB 15 Nov (AGu); 1 ad HB 22 Nov (AGu).

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 2600 N Hamlin Rd 5 Sep (MB).

**Iceland Gull:** arr 1 imm HB 6 Nov.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** total ~11 ind 5 loc 8-23 Sep (7 obs); total 16 ind 8 loc 5-31 Oct (14+ obs); 8 rep, 8 ind 7 loc 2-28 Nov (8 obs).

**Glaucous Gull:** arr HB 6 Nov.

**gull sp:** max 5000 CL 10 Nov (TBo).

**Caspian Tern:** max 24 BB – ES 18 Sep, low max; last 2 BB-ES 13 Oct.

**Black Tern:** last 2 off Edgemere Dr, G 10 Sep (MB).

**Common Tern:** max 32 HB 6 Sep, low max; last off lighthouse museum, SPt 31 Oct (TL).

**Forster's Tern:** last BB-ES 24-30 Sep.

**Common/Forster's Tern:** 2 SPt 10 Nov (RN).

**Red-throated Loon:** arr HB 3 Sep (AGu), early; max 272 SPt 10 Nov (RN), low max.

**PACIFIC LOON:** HB 30 Oct (CW), rare, but almost annual.

**Common Loon:** Sep max 59 HB 25 Sep, often first 100+ count by about this date; max 234 HB 1 Nov (AGu), low max.

**WOOD STORK:** Hafner P, Brockport 8 Oct (SD, CF, ph), 7<sup>th</sup> Reg record; Bald Eagle Crk Marina, ORLE 11 Oct (J. Bensley, *et al.*, ph), likely same individual?, *intro*.

**Northern Gannet:** HB 19 Nov (JaG, PMar, NU), only rep.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 1200 off Edgemere Dr, G 29 Sep (MB); max 1450 SPt 30 Oct (JMcG, LS).

**GREAT/DOUBLE-CRESTED**

**CORMORANT (R2):** SPt 14Nov (TL).

**American Bittern:** last 2 Edgemere Dr, G 17 Oct (JeB, KaB, MB, CW).

**Least Bittern:** last NMWMA (GBM) 11 Sep.

**Great Egret:** max 40 NMWMA (SCU) 29 Sep, good count; last Conesus Inlet WMA 25-30 Nov (CKe, 4 oth obs), late.

**Cattle Egret:** NMWMA (ARRd) 17 Oct (DK, MGu, W&MR); 2 Hogmire Rd, Nations Rd IBA LIVI 31 Oct (C&JR); Hard Rd, Webster 9 Nov (JHei, 6 oth obs); BB-ES 20 Nov (JaB, NR).

**Green Heron:** last NMWMA (CRRd) 13 Oct (W&MR).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** last Bausch & Lomb Riverside P, Rochester 20 Oct (EV).

**Black Vulture:** no reports.

**Osprey:** last IBO 2 Nov (JiM), late.

**Northern Goshawk:** no reports.

**Bald Eagle:** 267 lines eBird many loc Sep; 240 lines eBird many loc Oct; 182 lines eBird many loc Nov; good numbers.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** total 4 ind 4 loc 6-13 Oct; T Springwater LIVI 6 Nov (J&KGo); N Wolcott WAYN 7 Nov (W&MR).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** last LSP 4 Oct (RBea, MGr).

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** 1 imm Beadle Rd, T Sweden GENE 14-15 Oct (GNcG landowner, 13+ oth obs, ph), bird died.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr E Manitou overlook 30 Oct (CW); total ~ 10 ind 7 loc 1-24 Nov (6 obs).

**Snowy Owl:** 19 rep, 11 ind 11 loc 19-30 Nov (25+ obs), good showing.

**Long-eared Owl:** M – Owl Woods 19, 26 Sep (CW, AP), rare in fall.

**Short-eared Owl:** arr BB – Burger P 11 Oct; max 3 NMWMA (VDSR) 6 Nov (14 obs).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Beechwood SP WAYN 27 Sep (TL); Lakeshore Marshes WMA WAYN 27 Oct (MGU); total 21 M – Owl Woods 5-23 Oct (count team, *fide* JAd); total b 10 BBBO 23 Oct (owl banders); 1 foreign retrap BBBO 23 Oct (owl banders); Lakeshore Marshes WMA WAYN 7 Nov (W&MR, ph); M – Owl Woods 14 Nov (9 obs).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** ~13 ind 8 loc 4-26 Sep; last Webster MONR 11 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 3 NMWMA (VDSR) 9 Nov (R&Sp), many for date and loc.

**American Kestrel:** ~56 ind 43 loc Sep; ~25 ind 23 loc Oct; ~35 ind 33 loc Nov.

**Merlin:** total ~47 ind 31 loc Sep; total ~38 ind 29 loc Oct; ~22 ind 21 loc Nov.

**Peregrine Falcon:** total ~27 ind 17+ loc Sep; total ~30 ind 22+ loc Oct; 12 ind 11 loc Nov.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** last Hemlock Lake P LIVI 18 Sep (LHo).

**Eastern Kingbird:** last BB-ES 17 Sep.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** total 5 ind 5 loc 2-13 Sep (6 obs).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** last Abraham Lincoln P, T Penfield 11 Oct (RM).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** total b 16 BBBO 1-29 Sep; last BBBO 1 Oct.

**Willow Flycatcher:** last Beechwood SP WAYN 3 Sep.

**“Traill’s” Flycatcher:** total b 6 BBBO 2-29 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** max 23 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); total b 14 BBBO 2-13 Sep.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last Hip Brook Pres, T Penfield 19 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** last Beechwood SP WAYN 24 Oct (KGa).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** total b 13 BBBO 1-17 Sep, 3 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** last HB-YC 3 Oct (AGU), late.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** total b 49 BBBO 1-28 Sep, 15 Oct; last Alpine neighborhood, T Pittsford 16 Oct (RM).

**Northern Shrike:** arr Montezuma Audubon Center WAYN 24 Oct (LP); 17 rep, ~10 ind 7 loc 3-28 Nov (16 obs).

**Fish Crow:** max 7 OB area 9 Nov.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** total b 11 BBBO 17, 20 Sep, 7-27 Oct, plus 3 b in Aug; max 35 Whiting Rd NP, Webster 10 Sep; 1070 eBird lines Sep; 1123 eBird lines Oct; 837 eBird lines Nov.

**Horned Lark:** max 60 H – 2 loc 22 Sep & 5 Nov, low max.

**Bank Swallow:** last 2 Webster 27 Sep.

**Tree Swallow:** max 1800 NMWMA (VDSR) 19 Sep (LSt); last 3 NMWMA (VDSR) 30 Oct.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** max 210 NMWMA (Hogback Rd) 7 Oct; last 3 NMWMA (VDSR) 9 Oct (W&MR).

**Purple Martin:** max 280 N Hamlin Rd 4 Sep; last 5 IB-S 15 Sep.

**Barn Swallow:** last Sandra L Frankel P, T Brighton MONR 12 Oct.

**Cliff Swallow:** last H 12 Sep.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr BB-ES & T Pittsford MONR 2 Sep; max 75 Church Trail, G 30 Sep (ST); 70 HB 6 Oct (AGU); max b 81 BBBO 2 Oct; total b 416 BBBO 2 Sep – 28 Oct; IBO 1 Nov (JWi); T Rush Riverside Refuge 5 Nov (AMcM); last Rochester 17 Nov (JPo), late.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr BB-ES 7 Sep; max 60 BB-ES 2 Oct; max b 15 BBBO 22 Oct; total b 127 BBBO 16 Sep – 28 Oct.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 160 Webster P 17 Nov (CKi), low max.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** total b 11 BBBO 6-28 Sep; 225 eBird lines Sep; 192 eBird lines Nov.

**Brown Creeper:** total b 42 BBBO 13-30 Sep, 3-28 Oct.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last BB-ES 24 Sep.

**House Wren:** last HANA 11 Oct.

**Winter Wren:** arr M 14 Sep; total b 18 BBBO 15 Sep – 24 Oct; max 10 HB-YC 14 Oct (RSp); total ~25+ ind 18 loc Nov, good late numbers.

**Marsh Wren:** last Hemlock L Inlet 6 Nov (MKe), late.



**Gray Catbird:** max 30 Whiting Rd NP, W 7 Sep (DH); total b 95 BBBO 2 Sep – 23 Oct; ~8 ind 8 loc 3-17 Nov, good for so late.

**Brown Thrasher:** last 2 HB-WE (RSp, JaG, RR) & 1 Lakeshore Marshes WMA WAYN (MGU) 22 Oct.

**Veery:** total b 26 BBBO 1-18 Sep; last BB-ES 3 Oct.

**Gray-checked Thrush:** arr Grandview Heights, G 4 Sep (KG); max b 5 BBBO 19 Sep; total b 50 BBBO 7 Sep – 11 Oct, low; last HB-WE 22 Oct (RSp).

**BICKNELL'S THRUSH:** 1 b BBBO 28 Sep.  
**Gray-checked/Bicknell's Thrush:** total b 13 BBBO 7 Sep – 29 Sep.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 150 Jacobs Rd, H 16 Sep (AGu); max b 38 BBBO 7 Sep; total b 327 BBBO 1 Sep – 13 Oct; last Nunda-Dalton Rd LIVI 23 Oct (JGo).

**Hermit Thrush:** arr Beechwood SP WAYN 2 Sep (TL); 21 HB-YC 14 Sep; max 24 HB-WE 22 Sep; max b 19 BBBO 6 Oct; max 16 Webster P 14 Oct (NU); total b 95 BBBO 10 Sep – 28 Oct; ~25 ind 13 loc Nov (19+ obs), good number.

**Wood Thrush:** last 1b BBBO 21 Oct.

**American Robin:** max 350 T Gates MONR 5 Sep (BriM).

**American Pipit:** arr Jones Bridge Rd, T Leicester LIVI 4 Sep; max 100 Jacobs Rd, H 6 Nov (AGu).

**Common Redpoll:** arr 20 HB (AGu) & 4 IBO (JiM) 21 Oct; max 158 HB 24 Nov (AGu).

**White-winged Crossbill:** arr 4 M – Owl Woods 23 Oct (5 obs); max 12 M – Owl Woods 11 Nov (NR, JaG, JeG).

**Pine Siskin:** 125 BB – ES 2 Oct (TB, JGa, AGu, BriM); max 25 HB 24 Oct (AGu).

**American Goldfinch:** max 230 HB 4 Nov (AGu).

**Lapland Longspur:** arr N Hamlin Rd 9 Oct (AGu); max 3 Jones Bridge & Perry Rds, T Leicester LIVI 26 Nov.

**Snow Bunting:** arr 4 HB 18 Oct (GL, CW); max 120 Bateau P, T Irondequoit 16 Nov (MGU).

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 33 HB 11 Sep (AGu); last Leicester Rd, T Caledonia (MW) & Archer Acres, T Clarendon (JSh) 7 Nov.

**Field Sparrow:** last Buckland P, T Brighton MONR 25 Oct.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr M – Owl Woods & 3 Beechwood SP WAYN 18 Oct; last 2 MP 30 Nov (AMcM).

**American Tree Sparrow:** arr Walker Estate, T Pittsford MONR 19 Oct (VW); max 30 HANA 4 Nov (DSh).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 50 Durand-Eastman P 23 Oct, low max; total b 19 BBBO 19 Sep – 27 Oct.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr Wood Rd, T Clarendon ORLE 24 Sep; max 32 Red Crk WAYN 5 Oct (DDo).

**White-throated Sparrow:** arr M – Owl Woods 2 Sep (JiM); max 120 Beechwoods SP WAYN 30 Sep (TL); max b 60 BBBO 24 Sep; total 565 BBBO 7 Sep – 29 Oct; Nov max 93 Whiting Rd NP, W 5 Nov (JiM).

**Vesper Sparrow:** last Church Rd, H 30 Oct (ST).

**NELSON'S SPARROW (R2):** BB – point woods 3 Oct (MB); BB – Burger P, G 6-7 Oct (JaG, RR, 9 oth obs, ph); BB – Burger P 15 Oct (CW).

**Song Sparrow:** max 30 BB – Burger P 7 Oct; total b 22 BBBO 2 Sep – 28 Oct.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Genesee Valley Greenway LIVI 5 Sep (JKi); last 1b BBBO 23 Oct.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 45 BB – point woods 3 Oct (MB).

**Eastern Towhee:** last Abraham Lincoln P, T Penfield 5 Nov (JiM).

**Bobolink:** last BB-HW 19 Sep.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** last 4 Nations Rd, T Avon LIVI 23 Oct.

**Orchard Oriole:** last Whiting Rd NP, W 7 Sep (DHo).

**Baltimore Oriole:** last BB-ES 16 (Sep (JHe).

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 15000 MP - Outlet Marsh Oct 2 JMo).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 3000 NMWMW (Olmstead Rd, T Savannah) 22 Oct (JMcG).

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr 1-2 BB-ES 14 Sep (SG, DSh, NU); max 100 Wood Rd, T Clarendon ORLE 28 Oct (DBe); 33 HANA 6 Nov (SG, DSh); last 2 Quaker Rd, Scottsville 25 Nov (BHaa).

**Common Grackle:** max 2000 S Holley Rd, T Clarendon ORLE 25 Oct (GL).

**Ovenbird:** total b 11 BBBO 11 Sep – 10 Oct.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** 1 ea b BBBO 14; 19 Sep, very rare in fall.

**Northern Waterthrush:** total b 11 BBBO 2-19 Sep.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** 1b BBBO 3 Sep; Manitou Beach Pres 4 Sep (PMar).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** last BB-ES 25 Sep (MGi).

**“Lawrence’s” Warbler:** Four Mile Crk Pres, W 3 Sep (MGU).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** last 2 BB-ES 1 Oct.

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 18 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); total b 18 BBBO 1-28 Sep, 3 Oct; last Beechwood SP WAYN 23 Oct (TL, MMi).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** 2b BBBO 29 Sep, 10 Oct; total 17 ind 13 oth loc 15 Sep – 18 Oct (22 obs), good number.

**Nashville Warbler:** total b 15 BBBO 1-29 Sep; last BB – WS 21 Oct (GL).

**Connecticut Warbler:** 2b BBBO 7, 11 Sep; BB-ES 12 Sep (JiM, LMa); Beatty Pt, G 19 Sep (CW).

**Mourning Warbler:** last BB-ES 16 Sep.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 11 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); total b 37 BBBO 4-30 Sep, 19 Oct; last T Groveland LIVI 19 Oct (LHo).

**Hooded Warbler:** last Grandview Heights, G 24 Sep.

**American Redstart:** max 21 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); total b 37 BBBO 1-29 Sep; last M – Owl Woods 9 Oct (MTo).

**Cape May Warbler:** last Cranberry Pd Trail, G 13 Oct (CHo).

**Northern Parula:** max 26 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); total b 25 BBBO 1-29 Sep; last Abraham Lincoln P, T Penfield 11 Oct (RM, ph).

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 38 HB-WE 4 Sep (AGU, CW); max b 35 BBBO 3 Sep; total b 141 BBBO 1 Sep – 3 Oct; last Cranberry Pd Trail, G 13 Oct (CHo).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 20 M – Owl Woods 15 Sep (ST); total b 31 BBBO 1-27 Sep; last 2 HB 10 Oct (RRy).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** last Grandview Heights, G 29 Sep.

**Yellow Warbler:** 1 b BBBO 1 Sep, only one banded this season, 3b Aug, very low; last HANA 9 Oct (MBr), late.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** total b 11 BBBO 2-18 Sep; last BB-ES 28 Sep.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** max b 54 BBBO 23 Sep; max 50 BB – ES 25 Sep (ET); 21 HB 3 Oct (AGU); total b 513 BBBO 1 Sep – 15 Oct; last 3 HB – campground 20 Oct (JaG, RR, 9 oth obs).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** total b 64 BBBO 1 Sep – 19 Oct.

**Palm Warbler:** arr Jacobs Rd, H & BB-ES 4 Sep (AGU); last HB 21 Oct (AGU).

**Pine Warbler:** last Beechwood SP WAYN 18 Oct.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 75 Church Trail, G 30 Sep (STay); 68 BB – Burger P 15 Oct (CW); total b 67 BBBO 7 Sep - 19 Oct; 13 LSP 3 Nov (BCar); last HANA 21 Nov (DSh), late.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** last M – Owl Woods 15 Oct.

**Canada Warbler:** last Grandview Heights, G 19 Sep.

**Wilson’s Warbler:** total b 27 BBBO 1-30 Sep, 5 Oct; last Sandra L Frankel NP, T Brighton 28 Oct (PDem).

**Scarlet Tanager:** last 1b BBBO 5 Oct.

**Northern Cardinal:** total b 33 BBBO 7 Sep – 27 Oct; 1046 eBird lines Oct.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** last Wood Rd, T Clarendon ORLE 1 Oct.

**Indigo Bunting:** last T Livonia LIVI 11 Oct (TBo), late.

**Dickcissel:** Bennett Rd, T Parma MONR 4 Oct (CW); Jacobs Rd, H 4 Oct (AGU); Jones Bridge & Perry Rds, T Leicester LIVI 25-26 Oct (JKi, DBea); usually rare in Reg.



## REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

**Bill Ostrander**

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September and October were warmer and wetter than normal in the Region. November was colder and drier than normal. In Ithaca, the average low temperature in September was 51.6° F, 2.8° above normal. The average high temperature was 73.0°, 1.4° above normal. Total rainfall was 5.23", 1.4" more than normal. Cold fronts passed through on 2, 11, 20, 24, and 30 September. The average low temperature in October was 47.1°, 8.2° above normal. The average high was 64.3°, 5.3° above normal. Total rainfall was 7.35", 3.65" more than normal. Cold fronts passed through on 4, 10, 17, 23, 27, and 30 October. In November, the average low temperature was 28.5°, 1.9° below normal. The average high temperature was 46.1°, 0.7° below normal. Total precipitation was 2.61", 0.25" less than normal. Total snowfall was 3.7", 0.9" less than normal. Maximum snow depth was 2.0" attained on 29 November. Cold fronts passed through on 3, 11, 14, 20, 23, and 27 November.

The migration of geese and swans through the Region began with the early arrival of two Mute Swans in early September. Two Cackling Geese arrived in mid-September. The arrival of Brant in mid-October was widely observed in the Cayuga Lake Basin. The first Tundra Swans also arrived in mid-October. The first Greater White-fronted Goose appeared in late October. Migrating Snow Geese with at least one Ross's Goose arrived in early November. A high count of Canada Geese was at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in mid-November. A very rare **Barnacle Goose** also appeared in mid-November.

Fall duck arrivals began with a Red-breasted Merganser and a flock of Surf Scoters in late September. A Common Goldeneye and a White-winged Scoter showed up in early October. The first Bufflehead, Canvasbacks and Black Scoters arrived in mid-October and a Long-tailed Duck appeared in late October. The only high count was for Northern Pintails at Montezuma NWR in late November.

The first Horned Grebe report was from late October. The only report of Red-necked Grebes came from the Geneva Country Club in early November. Migrating Sandhill Cranes continued to gather in increasing numbers at Montezuma NWR with a high count of 200 in late October.

Shorebird arrivals during the season were American Golden-Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Stilt Sandpiper, and Buff-breasted Sandpiper in early September, Dunlin in mid-September, Hudsonian Godwit in late September, and Red Phalarope in late November. There was a high count of Lesser Yellowlegs at Montezuma NWR in early November and a late-lingering Spotted Sandpiper in mid-November.

Gull arrivals were Lesser Black-backed Gull in early September, Sabine's Gull in late September, Iceland Gull in mid-November, and an early Glaucous

Gull in mid-November. The first Red-throated Loon of the season was reported in late October. A **Pacific Loon** was on Cayuga Lake in late November.

The **Roseate Spoonbill** that originally appeared at Montezuma NWR in July continued there through mid-September. A Glossy Ibis arrived in mid-September and lingered into mid-October. There was a high count of Great Egrets at Montezuma NWR in mid-October.

A high count of Turkey Vultures migrated past Liddell Lab and Ponds in late October. At least one Black Vulture lingered at the Stevenson Road Compost Piles through the end of the season. The **Swallow-tailed Kite** that first showed up in Yates County in August stayed there through mid-September. An early Golden Eagle was at Montezuma NWR in mid-September. The first report of a Rough-legged Hawk was in late October.

A Long-eared Owl was detected in the Town of Erin in mid-October. Short-eared Owls first appeared in the Town of Phelps in early November and a high count of them was there in late November. The first Snowy Owl arrived in mid-November.

A high count of Eastern Kingbirds was reported at Hile School Road Wetland in early September. An Olive-sided Flycatcher observed in late September was late to depart. Counts of Warbling Vireos at Hog Hole in early September and of Philadelphia Vireos in Palmer woods in mid-September were high.

There were high counts of Brown Creepers at Danby State Forest in early September and of White-breasted Nuthatches at Mundy Wildflower Garden in mid-November. A Sedge Wren was at Bluegrass Lane Natural Area in early to mid-September. A Gray Catbird lingered at Stony Brook State Park into late November. The arrival of a Gray-cheeked Thrush on 4 September was early. An American Pipit arrived in mid-September.

A count of House Sparrows at East Lawn Cemetery in late October was high. A few winter finches arrived during the season: Pine Siskins in early September, White-winged Crossbills and Common Redpolls in early November, and Red Crossbills in mid-November. A dozen Lapland Longspurs arrived in the Town of Fayette in mid-October and were also a high count. A Snow Bunting arrived in late October.

A Lincoln's Sparrow arrived early on 1 September. A Rusty Blackbird arrived in mid-September, a Fox Sparrow and White-crowned Sparrows in late September, a Nelson's Sparrow in early October, and an American Tree Sparrow in mid-October. A **Lark Sparrow** was discovered in the Town of Tyre in mid-September. There was a high count of Swamp Sparrows at the Seneca Meadows Wetland Preserve in early October and of Vesper Sparrows at Bluegrass Lane Natural Area in late October.

The first Orange-crowned Warbler arrived in mid-September. A high count of Bay-breasted Warblers was at Palmer Woods in early September. A high count of Hooded Warblers was at Turkey Hill in mid-September. A high count of Blackpoll Warblers was at Seneca Lake State Park in late September.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**BL** – Beebe L, TOMP; **BLNA** – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **CLSP** – Cayuga L SP; **CU** – Cornell University; **DP** – Durland Pres, TOMP; **ED** – Elmira Dam, CHEM; **ELCP** – Edwards Lake Cliffs Pres, TOMP; **GCC** – Geneva Country Club, SENE; **HerH** – Herwood Hollow, TOMP; **HH** – Hog Hole, TOMP; **HSRW** – Hile School Rd Wetland, TOMP; **LP** – Lakefront P, SENE; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NYCC** – New York Chiropractic College, SENE; **OFS** – One Franklin Square, SENE; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **QCM** – Queen Catharine Marsh, SCHU; **RHPP** – Roy H P Pres, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SMWP** – Seneca Meadows Wetland Pres, SENE; **SRCP** – Stevenson Rd Compost Piles, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TEri** – T Erin, CHEM; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **Tith** – T Ithaca, TOMP; **TLod** – T Lodi, SENE; **TPhe** – T Phelps, ONTA; **TTyr** – T Tyre, SENE; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

**Snow Goose:** arr 800 T Varick SENE 8 Nov; 300 MNWR 8 Nov; 16 TPhe 8 Nov; max 6000 Seneca Stone SENE 29 Nov.

**Ross's Goose:** arr MNWR 8 Nov; last MNWR 20 Nov

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** arr MNWR 24 Oct; last NYCC 26 Nov  
Mt Pleasant TOMP.

**Brant:** arr 227 MyPt 18 Oct; late; max 382 BL 18 Oct; last 25 MNWR 29 Nov.

**BARNACLE GOOSE:** MNWR 19-20 Nov (JMc!, ph).

**Cackling Goose:** arr 2 MNWR 20 Sep; max 15 NYCC 21 Nov; 15 MNWR 21 Nov.

**Canada Goose:** max 35,000 MNWR 21 Nov (JMc!), high.

**Snow x Canada Goose:** Varick Winery SENE 27 Nov DK, ph).

**Mute Swan:** arr 2 MNWR 7 Sep (AA, JAA), early.

**Tundra Swan:** arr 20 MNWR 20 Oct; max 630 MNWR 21 Nov.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** last MNWR 3 Nov.

**Northern Pintail:** max 12,000 MNWR 30 Oct (JMc!, LSa), high.

**Mallard x Northern Pintail:** MNWR 1 Nov (MDW, ph).

**Canvasback:** arr 4 MNWR 17 Oct; max 71 MNWR 24 Oct.

**Surf Scoter:** arr & max 9 OFS 30 Sep; last 2 SLSP 23 Nov.

**White-winged Scoter:** arr OFS 4 Oct; max 6 LP 9 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** arr 2 Taughannock Falls SP 20 Oct; max 4 OFS 4 Nov.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr LP 25 Oct; max 3 OFS 25 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** arr N Mill Pd 9 Oct; max 145 CLSP 14 Nov.

**Common Goldeneye:** arr MyPt 3 Oct; max 43 Aurora High Banks CAYU 13 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** arr GCC 28 Sep; max 55 Wyers Pt SENE 22 Nov.

**Horned Grebe:** arr MyPt 31 Oct, late; max 3 SLSP 12 Nov; 3 Wyers Pt SENE 14-24 Nov.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 2 GCC 5 Nov, late.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** last NYCC 6 Oct.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** last Haney Biological Field Pres SENE 14 Sep.

**Common Nighthawk:** max 30 MNWR 10 Sep; last 2 Elmira Corning Regional Airport CHEM 16 Sep.

**Chimney Swift:** max 48 ED 1 Sep; last MNWR 1 Oct.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 6 TVE 4-9 Sep; last NYCC 29 Sep; HerH 29 Sep.

**Virginia Rail:** max 3 MNWR 19 Sep; 3 RRRT 11 Sep; last RRRT 23 Oct.

**Sora:** max 3 MNWR 12 Sep; last Goetchicus Wetland Pres TOMP 19 Oct.

**Common Gallinule:** max 188 MNWR 7 Sep; last MNWR 21 Nov.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 200 MNWR 23 Oct (JKI!), high.

**Black-bellied Plover:** max 11 TTyr 14 Sep; last MNWR 22 Oct; SW 22 Oct.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr MNWR 4 Sep, late; max 7 MNWR 11 Sep; last TTyr 24 Oct.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** max 13 MNWR 4 Sep; last 2 MNWR 4 Oct.

**Whimbrel:** 2 MNWR 17 Sep (M. Racinowski).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** arr MNWR 22 Sep; last MNWR 7 Oct.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr 7 MNWR 4 Sep; max 30 MNWR 8 Oct; last 3 TTyr 25 Oct.

**Sanderling:** max 5 MNWR 9 Oct; last MNWR 17 Oct.

**Dunlin:** arr MNWR 17 Sep; max 46 MNWR 9 Oct; last MNWR 24 Nov.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** max 6 MNWR 11 Sep; last MNWR 2 Oct.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 50 MNWR 14 Sep; last 6 MNWR 24 Oct.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** max 4 MNWR 11-12 Sep; 4 TTyr 14 Sep; 4 MNWR 28 Sep; last TTyr 25 Oct.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 10 Sep, late; max & last 2 MNWR 12 Sep.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 60 MNWR 21-22 Sep; last TTyr 28 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 175 MNWR 12 Sep; last MNWR 24 Oct.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** max 11 MNWR 3 Sep; last 6 MNWR 5 Oct.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** max 24 MNWR 23 Oct; last MNWR 3 Nov.

**American Woodcock:** last SW 14 Nov.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 14 MNWR 1 Oct; MNWR 21 Nov.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 5 MNWR 17 Sep; last Seneca L SCHU 13 Nov (MTo, ph), late.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 8 MNWR 11 Sep; last Newman Golf Course 12 Oct.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 525 MNWR 21 Sep (JMc!), high; last MNWR 3 Nov.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 120 MNWR 21 Sep; last 2 MNWR 8 Nov.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** TTyr 1 Sep; last MNWR 17 Oct.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** last 2 MNWR 18 Sep.

**Red Phalarope:** OFS 29-30 Nov.

**Sabine's Gull:** Seneca L SENE 24-28 Sep (TL, ph).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 25 NYCC 26 Nov.

**Iceland Gull:** arr SRCP 13 Nov.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** arr SRCP 1 Sep; max 7 SRCP 24-25 Nov (JMc, JGa), high.

**Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull:** NYCC 13-25 Nov.

**Glaucous Gull:** arr NYCC 20-25 Nov (LD), early

**Herring x Glaucous Gull:** SRCP 25 Nov.

**Glaucous x Great Black-backed Gull:** NYCC 25 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** max 5 ED 1 Sep; last SMWP 8 Oct.

**Common Tern:** max 7 LP 4 Oct; last Woodville Boat Launch ONTA 13 Oct.

**Forster's Tern:** last CLSP 18 Oct.

**Red-throated Loon:** arr GCC 21 Oct; max 3 GCC 3 & 19 Nov.

**PACIFIC LOON:** Cayuga L SENE 25 Nov (TL!, ph).

**American Bittern:** last MNWR 5 Nov.

**Least Bittern:** last MNWR 22 Sep.

**Great Egret:** max 262 MNWR 11 Sep (ASt, KW!), high; last MNWR 24 Nov (KT, ph), late.

**Cattle Egret:** max 5 T Canandaigua ONTA 27 Oct; last T Seneca Falls SENE 28 Nov.

**Green Heron:** max 10 HSRW 1 Sep; last Dryden Rail Trail TOMP 10 Oct.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** max 24 MNWR 11 Sep; last MNWR 29 Oct.

**Glossy Ibis:** arr MNWR 12 Sep, late; last MNWR 19 Oct (RM!), late.

**ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** MNWR thru 17 Sep (DK, ph).

**Black Vulture:** max 3 SRCP 11-29 Nov; last SRCP 30 Nov (TSc), late.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 1125 Liddell Lab and Pds TOMP 24 Oct (JMc!), high.

**Osprey:** max 4 SLSP 1 and 8 Sep; 4 MNWR 10-11 Sep; last MNWR 7 Nov.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** T Benton YATE thru 14 Sep (mob, ph).

**Golden Eagle:** arr MNWR 18 Sep (LCo!, ph), early; max 2 ED 11 Nov; last SW 12 Nov.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 631 TDan 16 Sep; last Watson Homestead STEU 2 Oct.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr Tlth 22 Oct; max 2 MNWR 6-20 Nov.

**Snowy Owl:** arr TDry 20 Nov.

**Long-eared Owl:** TEri 14 Oct (WEa!)

**Short-eared Owl:** arr 3 TPhe 3 Nov; max 9 TPhe 29 Nov (JAK, LM), high.



**Red-headed Woodpecker:** max 2 T Potter YATE 4 Sep; 2 Salmon Creek Btidge TOMP 18 Sep; last Wilderness House TOMP 17 Oct.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** last Ithaca 28 Sep.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** max 4 HSRW 1 Sep (LCh, STo), high; last MNWR 9 Oct (LVK!), late.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** last TEri 28 Sep (WEa!), late.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 6 Caswell Road Grasslands TOMP 1 Sep; 6 BL 14 Sep; last TDry 8 Oct; TCar 8 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last SW 7 Oct.

**Alder Flycatcher:** last Etna Fringed Gentian Area TOMP 15 Sep.

**Willow Flycatcher:** last TLod 17 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** max 4 ELCP 20 Sep; PW 15 Oct.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 10 Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres TOMP 3-4 Sep; 10 TDan 4 Sep; last HH 5 Nov.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** max 3 HSRW 1 Sep; last Black Diamond Trail TOMP 30 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 6 PW 30 Sep; 6 Tlth 10 Oct; last Long Pt SP 31 Oct.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 13 PW 14 Sep RZ!), high; last SLSP 5 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** max 18 HH 9 Sep (JMc), high; last CLSP 7 Nov.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 20 PW 14 Sep; last Chesterton House TOMP 15 Oct.

**Northern Shrike:** arr TDry 5 Nov.

**Bank Swallow:** max 250 MNWR 4 Sep; last MNWR 26 Sep;

**Tree Swallow:** max 1000 MNWR 5 Sep; last 9 MNWR 23 Oct.

**Purple Martin:** max 16 East Shore P TOMP 3 Sep; last MNWR 6 Sep.

**Barn Swallow:** max 250 Fall Creek Road Wetlands TOMP 9 Sep; last 8 Ontario Pathways ONTA 6 Oct.

**Cliff Swallow:** max 2 Fall Creek Road Wetlands TOMP 1 Sep; last MNWR 21 Sep.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** max 40 MNWR 2 Oct.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 20 Mundy Wildflower Garden TOMP 15 Nov (YH, YicL, YiyL), high.

**Brown Creeper:** max 10 Danby State Forest TOMP 6 Sep (JBr, APr), high.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** max 2 HerH 1 Sep; 2 MNWR 1 Sep; last SLSP 11 Nov.

**House Wren:** max 8 BLNA 16 Sep; last Goetchicus Wetland Pres TOMP 19 Oct.

**Sedge Wren:** BLNA 8-13 Oct.

**Marsh Wren:** max 7 MNWR 4 Sep; 7 QCM 10 Oct; last 2 MNWR 21 Nov; QCM 21 Nov.

**Gray Catbird:** max 24 Ridgeway Rail Trail TOMP 11 Sep; last 2 Stony Brook SP 29 Nov (SE, APa!), late.

**Brown Thrasher:** max 7 Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres TOMP 15 Sep; last TDry 18 Nov.

**Veery:** max 25 NYCC 15 Sep, nocturnal; last 3 Hobart and William Smith Colleges 5 Oct.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr TTyr 4 Sep (MGU), early; max 16 NYCC 15 Sep, nocturnal; last NYCC 25 Oct.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 1588 TLod 16 Sep, nocturnal; last TDan 3 Nov.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 40 TLod 13 Oct, nocturnal; last TCar 25 Nov.

**Wood Thrush:** max 13 NYCC 15 Sep, nocturnal; last T Hector SCHU 12 Oct; SW 12 Oct.

**House Sparrow:** max 150 East Lawn Cemetery TOMP 25 Oct (YicL), high.

**American Pipit:** arr MNWR 11 Sep; max 200 TFay 5 Oct.

**Common Redpoll:** 4 NYCC 6 Nov; Freeville Marshes TOMP 16 Nov.

**Red Crossbill:** arr TCar 14 Nov; max 6 TVE 21 Nov.

**White-winged Crossbill:** 2 TDry 2 Nov (KeMc!).

**Pine Siskin:** arr 5 MNWR 4 Sep; max 7 MNWR 29 Oct.

**Lapland Longspur:** arr & max 12 TFay 11 Oct (TL, ph), high.

**Snow Bunting:** arr MyPt 28 Oct; max 75 MNWR 21 Nov.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** last BLNA 25 Oct (BW, ph).

**LARK SPARROW:** TTyr 11 Sep (AE, AFa, DWa!).

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 30 TEri 25 Sep; last Northeast Ithaca 19 Nov.

**Field Sparrow:** max 12 T Ulysses TOMP 10 Oct; last Dryden Rail Trail TOMP 16 Nov; TLod 16 Nov.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr QCM 24 Sep (MFi!); max 8 Sampson SP 7 Nov.

**American Tree Sparrow:** arr MNWR 20 Oct; max 66 MNWR 17 Nov.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr 2 HerH 24 Sep; max 21 TLod 27 Oct; last Canoga Bait Pds SENE 23 Nov.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 10 BLNA 27 Oct (BW!); high; last MNWR 13 Nov.

**Nelson's Sparrow:** arr Jim Schug Trail TOMP 5 Oct; max 6 Cornell Research Pds 11 Oct (JMc!); high; last BLNA 21 Oct.

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 62 TFay 14 Oct; last MNWR 13 Nov.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr T Middlesex YATE 1 Sep (MJ); early; max 7 SMWP 6 Oct; last QCM 24 Oct.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 120 SMWP 6 Oct (Tm Lenz!); high.

**Eastern Towhee:** max 8 Sampson SP 25 Sep; last Monkey Run TOMP 8 Nov.

**Bobolink:** max 300 MNWR 4 Sep; last QCM 14 Oct; TFay 14 Oct.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 20 T Ledyard CAYU 19 Sep; last 2 TLod thru.

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 3 TDry 2 Sep; last TDry 24 Oct.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr HSRW 13 Sep; max 250 MNWR 21 Nov; last Dryden L TOMP (JMc, ph, LSa), late.

**Ovenbird:** max NYCC 1 Sep; last Newtown Battlefield SP 12 Oct.

**Northern Waterthrush:** last T Dix 10 Oct.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 3 T Jerusalem YATE 3 Sep; last 2 Northeast Ithaca 16 Sep.

**Golden-winged x Bluewinged Warbler:** T1th 16 Sep (SB, ph).

**“Lawrence’s” Warbler:** T1th 15 Sep (TSc!).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 4 BL 14 Sep; last T1th 11 Oct.

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 15 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 1 Oct; last Wee Stinky Glen TOMP 25 Oct.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr Trumansburg 16 Sep; last HH 14 Nov.

**Nashville Warbler:** max 12 DP 19 Sep; last Ithaca 1 Nov.

**Connecticut Warbler:** last ELCP 18 Sep.

**Mourning Warbler:** last Sullivanville Dam CHEM 26 Sep; BLNA 26 Sep.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 30 DP 3 Sep; last QCM 13 Nov.

**Hooded Warbler:** max 10 Turkey Hill TOMP 16 Sep (mob!); high; last Monkey Run TOMP 3 Oct.

**American Redstart:** max 5 DP 10 Sep; last TDry 13 Oct.

**Cape May Warbler:** max 8 RHPP 2 Sep; last T Newfield TOMP 9 Oct.

**Cerulean Warbler:** last MNWR 11 Sep.

**Northern Parula:** max 9 BLNA 16 Sep; last T Gorham ONTA 25 Nov (LM, ph), late.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 14 ELCP 16 Sep; last BL 15 Oct.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 12 PW 2 Sep (RZ!); high; last PW 22 Oct (JHu!); high.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 4 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 10 Sep; 4 MNWR 11 Sep; last TCar 4 Oct.

**Yellow Warbler:** max 12 MNWR 4 Sep; last SW 27 Sep.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 8 TVE 1 Sep; last SLSP 7 Oct.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 40 SLSP 26 Sep (TL!); high; last Ithaca 31 Oct.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 5 Sweedler-Lick Brook Pres TOMP 20 Sep; last T Ithaca 13 Oct.

**Palm Warbler:** max 13 HH 30 Oct; last TDry 20 Oct.

**Pine Warbler:** max 4 RHPP 2 Sep; 4 T Italy YATE 2 Sep; 4 Robert Trent Jones Golf Course TOMP 17 Sep. last Jim Schug Trail TOMP 24 Oct.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 60 T Ulysses TOMP 10 Oct.

**Prairie Warbler:** max 2 Sperr Memorial P CHEM 3 Sep; last RHPP 14 Sep.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 12 TDry 24 Sep; last PW 15 Oct.

**Canada Warbler:** last Finger Lakes National Forest SENE 28 Sep.

**Wilson's Warbler:** max 4 HerH 12 Sep; last MNWR 2 Oct.

**Scarlet Tanager:** max 7 TDry 10 Sep; last Ithaca 8 Oct.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 36 NYCC 15 Sep; 36 Mt Pleasant TOMP 19 Sep; last TLod 13 Oct.

**Indigo Bunting:** max 6 PW 6 Oct; last TLod 16 Oct.

**Dickcissel:** last MNWR 10 Oct.

## REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

**William Kuk**

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September 2021 was slightly warmer and somewhat wetter than normal. October was about 6° F warmer than average regarding temperature and much wetter than average. In fact, October was the third warmest since 1951 which is when the current period of record-keeping started. November was slightly cooler and drier than normal.

This year's Golden Eagle total of 120 for the fall migration at Franklin Mountain was somewhat lower than the long-term average with the highest counts coming in late November and early December. The maximum count was on 3 December with 22 Golden Eagles being tallied. Raptor species with above average numbers were Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, and Peregrine Falcon. The total Broad-winged Hawk count was 2,338, which is 45% above average. Just like last year the Bald Eagle count again set a record for Franklin Mountain with a total of 258 for the season. However, Red-tailed Hawk numbers continue to be low with a 48% decrease from the average. This is, of course, very puzzling since Red-tailed Hawks seem relatively common. In his summary of the hawk watch Andy Mason reports, "Red-tailed Hawk numbers continue to be low. This does not appear to be a conservation concern. These adaptable raptors look to be wintering further north resulting in lower migration." In total, 5,439 raptors were counted, which is above the average for the FMHW. If you need more statistics regarding raptors, you can refer to the species list following the narrative and to the chart showing maximums and first arrival dates.

In Tioga County Adam Troyer was also counting migratory birds that flew over his farm and vicinity. On 16 September he counted 6,680 Broad-winged Hawks, and another 3,214 on 19 September. Yes, that totals to roughly 10,000 Broad-wings! He also saw large numbers of Brant, Common Loons, and Northern Pintails in October and November. His family's farm is called Birdsong Meadows Farm for good reason with a couple more reasons to come later in the narrative.

Black, Surf, and White-winged Scoters were all reported in the Region in October and November. The Whitney Point Reservoir in Broome County had good numbers (for our area) of Long-tailed Ducks, Red-breasted Mergansers, and Ruddy Ducks. These were seen from Keibel Road which runs along the reservoir.

In Chenango County, small flocks of Sandhill Cranes were seen and photographed in a few different locations feeding in the marshy areas and farmlands. It may be that these birds may have been family groups which had bred in the county.

Regarding shorebirds, two juvenile Baird's Sandpipers were found and photographed by Chris Wood at Cornell Lane in Cortland County. They were later

refound foraging in a manure pit, and stayed in the area a few days. The same area also hosted three American Golden-Plovers in early October. Cornell Lane is one of the roads near the Cornell Teaching Dairy Barn, which seems to be favored by many species of shorebirds and other species as well. In Chenango County Mike DeWispelaere found a **Long-billed Dowitcher** which was well photographed and documented by himself and others. This was a rarity for the county and Region.

A **Yellow Rail** was seen by Adam Troyer on 8 October on his farm in Tioga County, and this bird was seen and photographed by others. He originally flushed the bird while mowing on a back field. Later he organized the 30+ birders that had arrived to see the rail to do transects of the field and this, combined with mowing, flushed the bird. Then on 12 October on a nearby farm Micah Kaufman also saw a Yellow Rail while chopping alfalfa. He then called others including Adam and Derek Green to see the rail. No one knows if this was the same bird or not. They are rarely seen on migration, and observers said that the bird seemed to vanish even in the mowed field. These were truly amazing and rare sightings.

A **Swallow-tailed Kite** was observed and photographed by Holly Grant on 12 September swooping over fields near Marathon in Cortland County. This was the first record in eBird for our Region. Another Swallow-tailed Kite was also being seen in Yates County at about the same time so it is not clear why there was this duplication of kites in upstate New York.

Another rare sighting in the Region was of a **Western Kingbird**. This bird was observed and photographed in a field by Cherry Valley Road in Broome County on 21 October. This was Broome's first eBird record for this species, and only the third eBird record for our Region.

Warbler diversity was about average this season, with 29 species recorded. In the last two years the number of species seen was 28. The highlight was Connecticut Warblers seen in five different locations in the Region in September. Also a Golden-winged Warbler was seen at Birdsong Meadows Farm on 6 September.

In summary, 221 species vs. 226 last year, were reported, with some interesting rarities for the Region. The number of observations in eBird was 38,040 which was 77% of last season's total. I also want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander, who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

It seems to me that the Yellow Rail sighting certainly deserves 'bird of the season'.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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**FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS**

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	11/10	2	11/10	2
Turkey Vulture	10/1	87	10/10	808
Osprey	8/31	6	9/16	71
Golden Eagle	10/18	22	12/3	120
No. Harrier	8/31	4	10/7	43
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/31	86	10/8	475
Cooper’s Hawk	9/10	15	10/7	85
No. Goshawk	11/20	1	11/21	2
Bald Eagle	8/28	22	9/16	258
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/7	7	11/23	48
Broad-winged Hawk	8/28	376	9/18	2338
Swainson’s Hawk				0
Red-tailed Hawk	8/29	115	10/27	874
Rough-legged Hawk				0
Am. Kestrel	8/31	13	10/8	126
Merlin	9/2	3	9/28	27
Peregrine Falcon	9/5	2	10/6	18
Unidentified				54
Total incl unidentified				5349

**ABBREVIATIONS**

**AqPk** – Aqua Terra P, BROO; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadows Farm, TIOG; **Bpd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **CornellLa** – Cornell Lane, T Harford, COURT; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch, DELA; **KiebelRd** – Keibel Rd, BROO; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, COURT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NMSF**– New Michigan SF, CHEN; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **SHM** – Sherburne Railroad Grade Marsh,

CHEN; **StPd** – Stupke Pd, T Cortlandville, CORT; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WHP** – William Hill P, Johnson City, BROO.

**Snow Goose:** max 75 Bainbridge OTSE 25 Nov.

**Brant:** max 200 BMF 18 Oct; 60 Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 18 Oct.

**Cackling Goose:** max 4 StPd 6 Nov.

**Trumpeter Swan:** BPd thru.

**Tundra Swan:** max 5 MHL 21 Nov.

**Northern Pintail:** max 100 BMF 22 Nov, flyover.

**Surf Scoter:** max 3 Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 12-18 Oct, mob.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 6 Chenango L CHEN 10 Nov, ph.

**Black Scoter:** max 2 Balsam Pd CHEN 4 Nov.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 3 KeibelRd 10 Nov.

**Common Goldeneye:** 30 Glimmerglass SP OTSE 25 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 10 KeibelRd 19 Oct.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 16 KeibelRd 20 Oct.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 3 KeibelRd 14 Nov.

**Horned Grebe:** max 2 KeibelRd 19 Nov.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 8 scattered reports of singles in Sep and early Oct.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** 2 Milford OTSE 13 Sep, only report.

**Common Nighthawk:** max 25 WHP 2 Sep; 10 WHP 5 Sep; 8 Covered Bridge Rd DELA 10 Sep; most sightings along rivers or bodies of water.

**Chimney Swift:** last 25 Glimmerglass SP OTSE 17 Sep.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last 2 T Bovina DELA 25 Sep.

**Virginia Rail:** max 2 BPd 18 Sep.

**Sora:** ULCP 19 Sep; Brick Pd TIOG 25 Sep-5 Oct; only reports.

**Common Gallinule:** max 3 Brick Pd TIOG 28 Sep; max 3 SHM 29 Sep.

**American Coot:** max 20 OtsL 11 & 14 Nov.

**YELLOW RAIL:** BMF 8 Oct, ph, mob, (ATro); Barden Rd TIOG 12 Oct, mob, (MK).

**Sandhill Crane:** max 5 Balf Rd CHEN 30 Oct, ph; 4 SHM 4 Oct, ph; 3 Round Pd Pharsalia SF

CHEN 19 Oct, ph; 3 Wm Law Rd BROO 24 Nov, flyover.

**Black-bellied Plover:** BMF 22 Oct, NFC.

**American Golden-Plover:** max 3 CornellLa 5 Oct.

**Dunlin:** max 3 SHM 24 Sep, ph.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** 2 CornellLa 2 Sep, ph.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 2 SHM 26 Sep.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** SHM 28 Sep-2 Oct.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 5 DorP 24 Sep, ph; 5 SHM 26 Sep.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 5 SHM 12 Sep.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 21 DorP 21 Nov, ph.

**Laughing Gull:** max 2 DorP 2-15 Sep.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 2 Cortland CORT 19 Oct, ph, only report.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** Goodale L CORT 4 Nov; Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 23 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** 2 ULCP 10 Sep, only report.

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 Pepacton Res DELA 17 Oct.

**Common Loon:** max 210 BMF 18 Nov; 61 T Scott CORT 27 Nov; both reports are of flyovers.

**Great Egret:** max 4 SHM 13 Sep.

**Cattle Egret:** 7 Berkshire TIOG 30 Oct, only report.

**NOTE: FMHW totals cover 28 August to 3 Jan; averages reflect 2001 to 2020 data, intro.**

**Black Vulture:** total 2 FMHW.

**Turkey Vulture:** total 808 FMHW, 63% above avg.

**Osprey:** total 71 FMHW, 33% below avg; 9 Blodgett Rd TIOG 16 Sep.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE :** Marathon CORT 12 Sep, ph, (HG).

**Golden Eagle:** total 120 FMHW, 34% below avg; 2 BMF 23 Nov.

**Northern Harrier:** total 43 FMHW, 28% below avg.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** total 475 FMHW, 2% below avg.

**Cooper's Hawk:** total 85 FMHW, 3% below avg.

**Northern Goshawk:** total 2 FMHW, 89% below avg.

## PHOTO GALLERY FALL 2021



Snowy Plover, Sandy Pond Outlet, *Oswego*, here 16 Sep 2021, © Sandy Podulka.



Common Ringed Plover, Sandy Pond Outlet, *Oswego*, 13 Sep 2021, © Jay McGowan.





This Say's Phoebe spent almost a month at Caumsett SP, *Suffolk*, delighting many birders (here 14 Oct 2021, © Ken Feustel); another was at Cupsogue CP, *Suffolk*, 11 Sep.



Western Kingbird is the quintessential vagrant flycatcher to New York State, where at least five were recorded this season. Most records are coastal, making this one particularly notable at Lisle, *Broome*, 21 Oct 2021. © Glenn Wilson.



Among the many rare flycatchers found in Fall 2021 were two Ash-throated Flycatchers, at Jones Beach SP, *Nassau* (above, 3 Nov, © Steve Walter), and at Bayswater Park, *Queens*.



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Dunkirk Airport, *Chatauqua*, 22 Oct 2021, © Celeste Morien.



Left: Gray Kingbird, Fire Island Lighthouse, *Suffolk*, 13 Oct 2021, © Eileen Schwinn.

Right: Tropical Kingbird, Mount Loretto Unique Area, *Richmond*, 26 Sep 2021, © Anthony Ciacimino. See article pp. 2-8.



Left: Gray Kingbird, Great Kills Park, *Richmond*, 30 Nov 2021, © Steve and Josette Bonamo.

Right: Tropical Kingbird, Mount Loretto Unique Area, *Richmond*, 26 Sep 2021, © Seth Wollney. See article pp. 2-8.



Barnacle Goose, Montezuma NWR, *Seneca*, here 19 Nov 2021, © Barbara Clise.



Razorbill, Crown Point State Historic Site, *Essex*, here 8 Nov 2021, © Gary Chapin.



Yellow Rail, Birdsong Meadows Farm, *Tioga*, 8 Oct 2021, © Jay McGowan.

**Bald Eagle:** total 258 FMHW, 49% above avg; many other rep; very widespread.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** total 48 FMHW, 2% below avg; BMF 23 Nov.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** total 2338 FMHW, 45% above avg; 6680 Blodgett Rd TIOG 16 Sep (ATro); 3214 Blodgett Rd TIOG 19 Sep (ATro).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** total 874 FMHW, 48% below avg; many other rep.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** total 0 FMHW; arr Oxford CHEN 27 Oct, ph.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** LHNC 1 Nov; BMF 23 Nov, seen.

**American Kestrel:** total 126 FMHW, 32% above avg.

**Merlin:** total 27 FMHW, 1% below avg.

**Peregrine Falcon:** total 18 FMHW, 9% above avg; plus rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

**WESTERN KINGBIRD:** Cherry Valley Rd BROO 21 Oct ,ph, (GW).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** MHL 5 Sep; BMF 12 Sep; T Scott CORT 15 Sep.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** ULCP 16 Sep, ph; 10 other scattered reports.

**Northern Shrike:** Hoag-Childes Rd CHEN 12 Nov; Cherry Valley OTSE 15 Nov, ph; BMF 20 Nov.

**Horned Lark:** max 40 Edwards Hill Rd BROO 29 Nov.

**Purple Martin:** Lockheed Martin Pd TIOG 5 Sep; T Coventry CHEN 7 Sep, ph.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** max 100 ULCP 11 Oct, abundant all over.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 30 KeibelRd 25 Oct.

**Winter Wren:** max 3 Griggs Gulf SF CORT 1 Oct; 3 NMSF 21 Nov.

**Marsh Wren:** last SHM 7 Nov.

**Veery:** last MHL 19 Sep.

**Gray-checked Thrush:** max 2 CornellLa (NFC) 5 Oct; 2 Oxford CHEN (NFC) 19 Sep.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 800 BMF (NFC) 19 Sep (ATro).

**American Pipit:** max 40 T Hamden DELA 14 Nov.

**Evening Grosbeak:** Van Alstine Rd OTSE 7 Nov, ph; only report.

**Red Crossbill:** max 11 NMSF 21 Nov, audio recordings; 7 E. Meredith DELA 29 Oct; 4 Bear Swamp SF OTSE 11 Nov, audio recordings; only reports.

**Pine Siskin:** max 12 NMSF 21 Nov; 6 other scattered reports.

**Lapland Longspur:** CornellLa 21 Oct; Edwards Hill Rd BROO 29-30 Nov.

**Snow Bunting:** max 25 Arnold Rd BROO 22 Nov; 5 other scattered reports in late Oct & Nov.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** CornellLa 2 Oct; BMF 14 Oct.

**American Tree Sparrow:** max 5 Roach Rd CHEN 17 Nov; 5 BPd 21 Nov.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 3 Kilroy Rd CHEN 27 Oct.

**Nelson's Sparrow:** CornellLa 2-6 Oct; SHM 2 Oct.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr SHM 13 Sep; last 2 Bridge St Downsville DELA 23 Oct.

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 40 Silver Wolf Farm T Hartwick OTSE 4 Nov; 10 MHL 10 Nov; last CG 30 Nov.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** BMF 6 Sep (ATro).

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 8 LHNC 26 Sep.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** 6 reports in BROO, CORT, and CHEN in Sep and early Oct.

**Connecticut Warbler:** 2 MHL 16 Sep, ph; BMF 6 Sep; KeibelRd Sep 18, ph; Brick Pd Owego TIOG 25 Sep; T Cortlandville CORT Sep 18-25.

**Mourning Warbler:** 2 BMF 8 & 23 Sep; Chlorinator Rd OTSE 6 Sep, ph; only reports.

**Hooded Warbler:** max 2 West River Rd CORT 2 Sep.

**Cape May Warbler:** max 7 StPd 5 Sep.

**Dickcissel:** CornellLa 2-3 Oct, "several buzzy flatulent calls", (CW).

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## REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

**David Wheeler**

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Fall 2021 continued the theme from summer of 'warmer than average'. September's average max temperature was 75.9° F, 2.8° above normal, with minimum temps 3.4° higher at 52.7°. Rainfall was a little below expected and 21 days were partly sunny or better. October was exceptionally warm at 67.3°, 7.2° above normal, with overnights faring even better at 50.8° and a whopping 8.4° better than usual. It was a rainy month with 7.48" falling, nearly double the historical average. Only 14 days were partly sunny or better. November average temperatures and rainfall were just a touch above normal, insignificant by the standards of the two months preceding. Snowfall was less than half expected and 12 days were partly sunny or better.

Fall duck and goose numbers seemed about usual at the Region's waterfowl hotspots. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana spotted a Ross's Goose flying with a small group of Snow Geese on 20 November at the Loop Road Unit of Montezuma east of the Seneca River. The movement of Snows would pick up during the last four days of the month. Sandy Pond again hosted good counts of teal. Matt Brown counted 60 Blue-winged on 9 September and 242 Green-winged on 18 October. King Eider were noted from Derby Hill on 22 October and 19 November. Scoters also put in a decent showing as diving ducks gradually replaced lingering dabbling ducks.

A Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Syracuse on 12 October was noted by the observer to be possibly ill or injured, but the species is known for occasional lingering individuals or possibly reverse migrants late in the season. It was not to be a great year for Common Nighthawks in September, with a group of three and a few singles noted. A Chimney Swift seen by Jeremy Collison flying by Derby Hill on 17 October was a full month later than the previous sighting, but Derby Hill is a good place to catch these late movers. Onondaga Lake hosted 32 American Coots on 15 October, a good number for the area. Jonathan Kresge observed 90 Sandhill Cranes going over the DeWitt Marsh on 28 November, likely headed for Montezuma where a record-setting year was in progress. Mickey Scilingo had 53 flying by West Monroe on the same day.

Good shorebird conditions at Sandy Pond produced a first state record **Snowy Plover** on 13 September for Sarah Forestiere, Kennedy Sullivan, and Matt Brown. The bird stayed four days on the tip of the south spit giving great looks to the 45 or so birders willing to walk up or paddle to the location. While there on the 13<sup>th</sup> for the Snowy, Jay McGowan, Drew Weber, and Larry Chen spotted an equally rare **Common Ringed Plover** and were able to differentiate it with certainty from the similar Semipalmated Plover. This mega was a first Regional record and third

state record. It was not to remain as birders over the next few days searched for it in vain. Sandy Pond also yielded Hudsonian Godwit on 7-8 October as well as Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, and Stilt Sandpiper, which also put in an appearance at Oneida Shores Park. Gary Meyers spotted an increasingly uncommon Upland Sandpiper at Ditch Bank Road on 3 September, while David Wheeler contributed the season's only Purple Sandpipers from Derby Hill on 26 November. A **Western Sandpiper** found by Bill Purcell at Oneida Shores Park on 9 September was seen by many over its four day stay. Purcell also found a **Long-billed Dowitcher** there on 15 September and the bird was seen through 26 September. Brown meanwhile found one at Sandy on the 13<sup>th</sup>, adding to the list of targets for birders at the spot. The species is regularly seen to our west but remains very scarce (less than annual) in Region 5. Rounding out an exciting shorebird season, Tonia Jordan photographed (from a boat) five Red-necked Phalaropes near a buoy in Oneida Lake on 4 September. While both species of pelagic phalarope undoubtedly stop on our waters, they are very rarely found.

Lakewatching at Derby Hill on strong west to northwest winds produced all three jaeger species. An incursion of **Razorbills** on Lake Ontario had birders scrambling to find one. Watching from Derby, Drew Weber had one fly by on 30 October and Larry Chen and Jay McGowan saw one from the same spot the next day. David Wheeler and Bill Purcell were lucky enough to add one on 22 November. Do these birds perish on fresh-water Lake Ontario? Farther south on Onondaga Lake, Weber spotted five juvenile **Sabine's Gulls** on 15 September, at least one of which remained until the 19<sup>th</sup>. McGowan and Weber also found a **Laughing Gull** at the Liverpool marina the same day. The bird would linger on the lake for almost six weeks, frequenting the west shore docks at Lakeview Point. Back at Derby Hill on 17 October, Wheeler spotted a distant **Franklin's Gull** which would remain in the Mexico Bay area long enough for other birders to see. While watching that bird Scott Peterson picked up two Little Gulls. It would be a good year for our smallest gull with additional sightings from Fair Haven, Sandy Pond, and Oneida Shores Park. The Derby lakewatch would produce Black-legged Kittiwake on eight different days plus two at Fair Haven on 3 November for Gregg Dashnau and at Oneida Shores Park on 30 November for Weber, Dennis Anderson, and Santos Rodriguez. Sandy and Oneida Shores would also produce a few Forster's Terns in mid-September, always an elusive species.

The excitement at Oneida Shores Park was not over, however. While birding on the beach there on 27 September, Paul Novak and Mark Fitzsimmons observed a **Magnificent Frigatebird** flying past. This is only the third record for Region 5. Formerly thought to be a 'hurricane bird', recent sightings without extreme weather suggest some may reach the Great Lakes area every year without need of a strong northbound storm. While birding the south end of Onondaga Lake on 18 November, Aidan Perkins spotted an immature **Northern Gannet**. The bird was still flying and sitting on the water the next day as well, and is a first county record. A **Cattle Egret** was seen on 12 November by Ian Davies and Drew Weber trying to land on the water amongst roosting gulls out from the end of the Onondaga



Lake Creekwalk. The bird realized its mistake and retreated to the rock jetties but was not seen again. Near the Pleasant Valley Preserve in the town of Onondaga, another (or the same one) was found on 21 November by Ryan Andrew and Molly McManus.

Black Vultures appeared again in Jamesville and Little Falls and several Golden Eagles were reported. A few lucky observers caught a big burst of hawk migration from Onondaga Lake Park on 24 October. Gregg Dashnau found Long-eared, Short-eared, and Saw-whet Owls at Three Rivers in October. At the same spot Dashnau found a Sedge Wren on 20 October, a very late date for the species. Back at Sandy Pond on 6 October Matt Brown found a third Regional record **Northern Wheatear** in the south spit sand dunes. It remained another day as birders now familiar with the trek made their way to the channel area. No real invasion of finches occurred but a few Common Redpoll were noted. Dashnau found a Clay-colored Sparrow at Onondaga Lake Park on 19 September. While lakewatching at Derby Hill, a very late female (type) American Redstart surprised David Wheeler and Bill Purcell on 22 November. A well-described **Yellow-throated Warbler** was found on 15 October at Three Falls Woods Nature Preserve near Manlius by Kevin Murphy. Rounding out the passerine highlights was a **Dickcissel** found by Deborah Dohne and Dennis Anderson on 15 September near the parking lot for the 'marshy spits' area of Onondaga Lake. It remained three days but was elusive to many that looked. Gary Meyers found another near the huge brush piles on the west end of Ditch Bank Road on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Region 5 currently has five operating MOTUS stations at Derby Hill, Three Rivers WMA, Rome WMA, Utica Zoo, and a site four miles south of Williamstown known as 'Fassler'. These register radio-tagged birds that fly through their 15-mile-diameter circle of detection. This season 33 'hits' were logged of seven different species. All birds had been recently tagged in the preceding few months. A brief summary is below with highlights from birds that passed stations subsequent to ours. Of particular note is the amount of time many of the birds spent preparing in the northeast for the long-distance part of their journey.

*Swainson's Thrush* - Twelve individuals of which five were detected by more than one station in Region 5. All were tagged in Montreal but for one tagged in Springfield MA. ID#57370 was detected by Three Rivers on 14 September, then several sites including one in South Carolina and the Florida panhandle on 30 September, then a final hit in Panama on 16 October. Note that true departure and landfall locations and dates most likely don't conform to the last MOTUS detections as the bird may have passed locations without a receiver. Three other birds followed the same general flight path with two last heard from in south Florida where they likely jumped off to their choice of next landfall, presumably the Yucatan Peninsula and points south where their migration over land would continue. Of the remaining birds, three were last detected from the Maryland panhandle, two in Virginia, one in Tennessee, and

the rest last heard from during their stay in Central NY.

*Blackpoll Warbler* - Four individuals all tagged at the Braddock Bay banding station near Rochester. ID#53927 was tagged on 21 September then picked up by Three Rivers on 2 October and then a station on outer Long Island on 1 November, the bird having spent nearly six weeks in NY state preparing for its long over-water journey. Departure and landfall dates and locations were not detected. The other three birds were last heard from in Central NY.

*American Pipit* - Three individuals all tagged at Tadoussac Quebec. Picked up at Fassler on 27 October and at Castleton View Virginia on 3 November, ID#57315 next checked in from a station in Baja California 60 miles south of Tijuana! What route to the west coast did it follow? Did the other two undertake a similar flight but undetected? One bird was last heard from at Derby Hill, the other near Kiptopeke Virginia.

*Horned Lark* - Four individuals tagged as part of the same project as the Pipit. All were last heard from in NY or PA.

*Bobolink* - A sole individual tagged south of Coatsville PA on 19 May then presumably near or on territory near Canton NY on 26 May, followed by Rome on 1 September. Subsequent hits were at Lewes DE on 2 September (implying a lengthy overnight flight from Rome) and last contact at Newport News VA on 17 September.

*Ovenbird* - A single individual tagged in mid-May near Cleveland OH then presumably on territory northwest of Toronto. Rome picked it up on 28 September as did Harrisburg PA. Next detection would be from coastal South Carolina on 16 October, then Bradenton FL the next day.

*Tennessee Warbler* - A bird tagged in Montreal on 10 September and checking in at Rome on September 26. It was last heard from on the Maryland panhandle on 12 October.

As the MOTUS network grows we can look forward to a more fine-scale map of tagged-bird movement. A substantial number of receivers are in place throughout upstate NY and the northeastern US and Canada but are thinly-distributed in southern, midwestern, and western states and mostly lacking in the Caribbean islands, Mexico and Central/South America. Additionally, only a small number of birds are equipped with tags. The author hopes these very small devices will eventually replace conventional bands at banding stations due to the potential of much greater data return. Cost will likely be the limiting factor.

This season a total of 259 species and one hybrid was reported, which is 19 above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights of the season included: Ross's Goose, King Eider, **Snowy Plover**, **Common Ringed Plover**, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, **Western Sandpiper**, Long-billed Dowitcher, Red-necked Phalarope, **Long-tailed Jaeger**, **Razorbill**, **Sabine's Gull**, **Laughing Gull**, **Franklin's Gull**, Forster's Tern, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, **Northern Gannet**, **Cattle Egret**, Black Vulture, Sedge Wren, **Northern Wheatear**,

Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, Clay-colored Sparrow, **Yellow-throated Warbler**, and **Dickcissel**.

Fall 2021 produced 60,587 eBird records for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.5. Reports were submitted by 515 people and the Contributor list assembled as described in previous reports.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HM** – Hamlin Marsh, Clay; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **Lont** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MexPt**

– Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Rd Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OLP** – Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **Ppt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **Sithe** – trails at Independence P, formerly Sithe Energy, Scriba; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skani** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscarora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

**Snow Goose:** arr Van Buren 6 Oct; max 750 Hamilton 30 Nov.

**Ross's Goose:** LoopR 20 Nov (JMc, LSn); only rep.

**Brant:** arr 200 DH 17 Oct; max 490 DH 22 Oct; last OswH 23 Nov.

**Cackling Goose:** SP 19 Sep & 8 Oct; OakC 23 Oct; Madison 28 Oct; 2 Utica 30 Nov; max 4 Fulton 25 Nov; only reps.

**Canada Goose:** max 2300 DB 15 Nov.

**Mute Swan:** most reps OnonL & FH; max 60 FH 7 Nov.

**Trumpeter Swan:** 1-4 var expected locs.

**Tundra Swan:** arr 5 DC 30 Oct; max 65 LoopR 20 Nov.

**Wood Duck:** max est 120 Earlville 7 Nov.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 60 SP 9 Sep; last 2 UM 25 Oct.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 14 OnonL 20 Sep.

**Gadwall:** max 15 SP 8 Oct.

**American Wigeon:** max 145 FH 15 Oct.

**Mallard:** max 300 SP 8 Oct.

**American Black Duck:** max 45 FH 3 Nov.

**Northern Pintail:** max 600 LoopR 20 Nov.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 242 SP 18 Oct.

**Canvasback:** arr 3 DH 16 Oct; max 5 OneiL 13 Nov.

**Redhead:** arr 2 FH 9 Oct; max 50 OnonL 28 Nov.

**Ring-necked Duck:** arr 2 WP 7 Sep; max 1100 WP 16 Nov.

**Greater Scaup:** arr OswH & OnonL 24 Sep; max 750 OneiL 15 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** arr WP 6 Oct; max 150 OneiL 30 Nov.

**Greater/Lesser Scaup:** max 1200 OneiL 30 Nov.

**King Eider:** arr DH 22 Oct; 2 DH 19 Nov; only reps.

**Surf Scoter:** arr 3 SP 8 Oct; max 27 SP 18 Oct; last DH 19 Nov.

**White-winged Scoter:** arr 2 OnonL 4 Oct; max 100 DH 22 Oct.

**Black Scoter:** arr 5 DH 16 Oct; max 16 Hinckley Dam 27 Oct.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr 2 DH 16 Oct; max 500 SP 24 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** arr 6 OtiscoL 5 Oct; max 220 OnonL 10 Nov, good num.

**Common Goldeneye:** arr SP 8 Oct; max 100 OneiL 29 Nov.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 107 SP 23 Nov.

**Common Merganser:** max 280 SP 8 Oct.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** arr 5 OnonL 25 Sep; max 500 OswH 23 Nov.

**Ruddy Duck:** arr 3 WP 2 Oct; max 35 WP 10 Nov & OnonL 18 Oct.

**Wild Turkey:** max 39 Cazenovia 9 Oct.

**Ruffed Grouse:** small nums var locs.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** small nums var locs.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 17 OnonL 25 Sep.

**Horned Grebe:** arr OnonL 12 Sep; max 26 DH 4 Nov.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr WP 8 Oct; max 3 OnonL 28 Nov.

**Rock Pigeon:** max est 185 Clay 15 Nov.

**Mourning Dove:** max 64 WMonroe 5 Sep.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Syr 12 Oct, late, poss injured/ill (JLu).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** no reps.

**Common Nighthawk:** max 3 OnonL 11 Sep; last OnonL 17 Sep; several other reps.

**Chimney Swift:** max 8 OnonL 6 Sep; last DH 17 Oct (JCo), very late-five weeks after next latest; few reps.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 4 var locs early Sep; last Manlius 27 Sep.

**Virginia Rail:** max 6 HI 11 Sep; last 2 Clay 9 Oct; few reps.

**Sora:** DC 24 Oct, late (MBr); only rep.

**Common Gallinule:** max 12 HI 19 Sep; last OnonL 13 Nov.

**American Coot:** max 32 OnonL 15 Oct, good num.

**Sandhill Crane:** 53 WMonroe (MSc) and max est 90 DeWitt Marsh 28 Nov (JKr); several other reps var dates.

**Black-bellied Plover:** max 21 SP 19 Sep; last SP 2 Nov.

**American Golden-Plover:** max 12 Cato 11 Sep; last Lakeport 21 Oct.

**Killdeer:** 54 Geddes 15 Sep; max 83 Cato 8 Sep, good num.

**COMMON RINGED PLOVER:** SP 13 Sep (JMc, DWe, LCh), 1<sup>st</sup> Reg & 3<sup>rd</sup> state rec.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 40 SP 15 Sep; last SP 23 Oct.

**SNOWY PLOVER:** SP 13-16 Sep (MBr, Sfo, KSu, mob, ph), 1<sup>st</sup> state and Reg rec.

**Upland Sandpiper:** DB 3 Sep (GMe); only rep.

**Whimbrel:** no reps.

**Hudsonian Godwit:** SP 7-8 Oct (MBr).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** 1-2 SP & FH var dates; last 2 FH 5 Oct.

**Red Knot:** max 4 SP 9 Sep (MBr); last SP 7 Oct.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** max 2 SP 11 Sep (MBr) & OSP 1 Sep (BPu); last SP 6 Oct (MBr).

**Sanderling:** max 89 SP 7 Sep; last 20 SP 11 Nov.

**Dunlin:** arr DB 3 Sep; 63 SP 2 Nov; max 88 FH 3 Nov; last 4 SP 24 Nov.

**Purple Sandpiper:** 3 DH 26 Nov (DWh); only rep.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** max 4 SP 15 Sep; last 2 SP 19 Sep.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 18 SP 16 Sep; last SP 15 Oct.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** singles only OSP & SP; last SP 6 Oct.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** no reps.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 19 SP 19 Sep; last DB 21 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 55 SP 1 Sep; last SP 13 Oct.

**WESTERN SANDPIPER:** OSP 9-13 Sep (BPu, mob, ph).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** max 7 SP 9 Sep; last 2 SP 19 Sep.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 2 SP 15-18 Sep (MBr); OSP 15-26 Sep (BPu); species always scarce in Reg.

**American Woodcock:** max 6 TR 12 Oct; last Poland 5 Nov.

**Wilson's Snipe:** 1-2 var locs Oct; last SP 11 Nov.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 4 DB 19 Sep; last OnonL 19 Nov, very late (JCo).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** 1-2 var locs Sep; last SP 8 Oct.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max OSP 8 Sep; last 2 WMonroe 17 Oct.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 30 SP 18 Oct; last OnonL 11 Nov.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** 5 OneiL 4 Sep (TJo, ph), exc num; only rep.

**Red-necked/Red Phalarope:** 1 DH 19 Sep.

**Pomarine Jaeger:** 2 DH 1 Nov (DWh, mob).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** FH 24 Sep (MIn); SP 8 Oct (mob); OswH 17 Oct (GDa); 1-3 DH var dates; max 3 DH 31 Oct.

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** SP 8 Oct (JMc, DWe).

**RAZORBILL:** DH 30, 31 Oct (DWe, JMc); DH 22 Nov (DWh, BPu), 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg rec.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** arr DH 19 Oct; 2 DC 30 Oct (MBr), unusual loc; max 8 DH 31 Oct; 1-6 var dates DH; 2 FH 3 Nov (GDa); 2 OSP 30 Nov (DWe, mob), unusual loc.

**SABINE'S GULL (R5):** 5 juv OnonL 15 Sep (DWe, mob, ph), 1 continues 16-19 Sep (mob), exc num.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 350 OneiL 17 Sep.

**Little Gull:** OSP 29 Sep (DWe); 2 DH 17 Sep (SPe, DWh, MBr); SP 2 Nov (MBr); FH 3 Nov (GDa); DH 22 Nov (DWh, BPu); 3-4 DH 26 Nov (DWh, GDa).

**LAUGHING GULL (R5):** OnonL 15 Sep (JMc, DWe, mob, ph), continues thru 25 Oct.

**FRANKLIN'S GULL (R5):** DH 17 Oct (DWh, mob, ph).

**Ring-billed Gull:** max est 2200 OnonL 12 Nov.

**Herring Gull:** max est 900 MCL 15 Nov.

**Iceland Gull:** arr SSSP 19 Nov; MCL 20, 26 Nov; DH 22 Nov; Fulton 23 Nov; only reps.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 4 Fulton 25 Nov; 1-2 var locs throughout period.

**Glaucous Gull:** arr SP 13 Oct, early; SP 24 Nov; MCL 25 Nov; only reps.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 40 SVB 30 Nov.

**Herring x Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid):** SSSP 27, 30 Nov (MBr).

**Caspian Tern:** max 35 SP 9 Sep; last OnonL 4 Oct.

**Black Tern:** no reps.

**Common Tern:** max 18 SP 11 Sep; last OnonL 18 Oct.

**Forster's Tern:** 1-3 SP 14-16 Sep; OSP 29 Sep; only reps.

**Red-throated Loon:** arr 2 OnonL 23 Oct; 33 OnonL 28 Nov; max 52 Hamilton (RCo), exc num, unusual loc.

**Common Loon:** max 55 DH 19 Nov.

**MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** OSP 27 Sep (PNo, MFi), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg rec.

**NORTHERN GANNET (R5):** juv OnonL 18-19 Nov (APe, mob, ph), 1<sup>st</sup> county rec.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max est 3500 SP 8 Oct.

**American Bittern:** singles 5 typ locs; last Old Forge 14 Oct.

**Least Bittern:** Tully 5 Sep; HI 11 Sep; Phoenix 28 Sep; only reps.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 8 SP 8, 13 Oct & OLP 18 Sep.

**Great Egret:** max 16 WMonroe 21 Sep; last OLP 20 Nov, late.

**CATTLE EGRET (R5):** OnonL 12 Nov (DWe); T Onondaga 21 Nov (MMc, RAn).

**Green Heron:** max 7 Clay 3 Sep & Syr 28 Sep; last 4 TR 14 Oct.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** OLP 7 Sep; Fayetteville & SP 13 Sep; OLP 17, 26 Sep, 6-8 Oct; only reps.

**Black Vulture:** 3 Little Falls 2 Oct & Jamesville 23 Nov; known locs; only reps.

**Turkey Vulture:** 604 BRH 27 Oct; max 977 OLP 24 Oct.

**Osprey:** max 4 OnonL 2 Sep; last SP 16 Nov, very late (MBr).

**Golden Eagle:** Erieville 9 Oct; Baldwinsville 25 Oct; Constantia 4 Nov; Holland Patent 26 Nov.

**Northern Harrier:** max 5 OLP 24 Oct.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 7 Constantia 19 Sep.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 4 SFNS 1 Oct.

**Northern Goshawk:** Norway HERK 15 Oct.

**Bald Eagle:** max 15 SP 18 Oct.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 7 OLP 24 Oct; last Syr & Clay 28 Nov.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 130 Syr 18 Sep; last Rome 8 Oct.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 41 BRH 27 Oct.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr T Onondaga 13 Oct; max 3 BRH 27 Oct.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** singles/pairs typical locs.

**Great Horned Owl:** widespread resident.

**Snowy Owl:** arr T Fenner MADI 21 Nov; singles typ locs thru.

**Barred Owl:** widespread resident.

**Long-eared Owl:** TR 14, 28 Oct (GDa); only reps.

**Short-eared Owl:** TR 14-25 Oct; Oneida & OLP 21 Nov.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** TR 4 Oct (GDa).

**Belted Kingfisher:** widespread; max 5 SP 14 Sep.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** reps from established locs; Remsen 10 Oct; Pennellville 12 Oct.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 4 Erieville 19 Sep.

**Downy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**Northern Flicker:** max 12 SP 15 Sep & TR 18 Sep.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**American Kestrel:** family groups Sep; singles thru var locs.

**Merlin:** singles/pairs scattered about Reg.

**Peregrine Falcon:** singles/pairs typ locs.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** max 2 Pulaski 9 Sep; last NSyr 17 Sep.

**Eastern Kingbird:** singles several locs thru 22 Sep; last Danube HERK 6 Oct, late.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** SFNS 3 Sep; Clinton 6 Sep; Sullivan 9 Sep; Waterville 10 Sep; last Hastings 11 Sep; only reps.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 5 FH 5 Sep; last Chittenango 3 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** 1-2 several locs; last FH 21 Sep.

**Alder Flycatcher:** no reps.

**Willow Flycatcher:** several reports; last 2 SP 16 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** max 2 several locs; last OLP 19 Sep.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 8 SP 19 Sep.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** max 5 HI 11 Sep; last Manlius 12 Oct, late.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 4 GLSP 15 Oct; last 2 SP 23 Oct.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 5 Syr 8, 20 Sep, good num; last OSP 2 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** max 5 OSP 13 Sep; last OSP 29 Sep.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 11 Syr 8 Sep; last Chittenango 14 Oct.

**Northern Shrike:** arr Salisbury 24 Oct; Salisbury 27 Nov; only reps.

**Blue Jay:** max 444 Constantia 19 Sep.

**American Crow:** max 2800 OakC 30 Nov.

**Fish Crow:** max 6 IH 19 Nov; reps typ locs.

**Common Raven:** max 8 Constantia 2 Nov; widespread reps.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** widespread resident; max 34 Old Forge 18 Sep.

**Tufted Titmouse:** widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI.

**Horned Lark:** max 137 BRH 5 Nov.

**Bank Swallow:** max 20 LoopR 11 Sep; last Constantia 24 Sep.

**Tree Swallow:** max 50 FH 9 Sep; last 7 HI 11 Oct.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** max & last 9 HI 11 Sep.

**Purple Martin:** max 5 SP 9 Sep; last DH 12 Sep.

**Barn Swallow:** max 20 OLC 6 Sep; last 2 FH 18 Sep.

**Cliff Swallow:** SP 19 Sep, only rep.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Fayetteville 3 Sep; max 55 HI 9 Oct; last OSP 24 Nov.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 30 SP 18 Oct.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 100 OtiscoL 7 Sep; flocks widespread.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** small groups typ locs; max 18 MH 5 Sep.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** widespread resident.

**Brown Creeper:** small nums typ locs; max 4 TR 2 Oct & SP 7 Oct.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** max & last 3 DB 25 Sep.

**House Wren:** max 7 DB 11 Sep; last OLP 22 Oct.

**Winter Wren:** max 7 Noyes S 13 Oct & SSSP 22 Oct.

**Sedge Wren:** TR 20 Oct (GDa), late, well seen; only rep.

**Marsh Wren:** max 5 Brew 12 Sep; last DeWitt 28 Oct.

**Carolina Wren:** small nums typ locs, mostly ONON.

**Gray Catbird:** max 29 OSP 19 Sep; last New London ONEI 26 Nov.

**Brown Thrasher:** max 4 Earlville 14 Sep; last Syr 11 Nov, late, window strike.

**Northern Mockingbird:** singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.

**European Starling:** max 3200 DB 21 Oct.

**Eastern Bluebird:** widespread; max 57 Constantia 1 Nov.

**Veery:** max 10 HI 11 Sep; last 3 Syr 28 Sep.



**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr Pulaski 9 Sep; singles 8 locs; max 25 Syr 5 Oct, NFCs (DWe); last TR 14 Oct.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr 2 OSP 2 Sep; 10 SP 13 Sep & Syr 28 Sep; 14 RCFS 20 Sep; max 65 HI 11 Sep, NFCs; last 2 TR 10 Oct; good nums.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 8 TR 20 Oct.

**Wood Thrush:** max 20 HI 11 Sep; last GLSP 30 Sep.

**American Robin:** max 1048 Constantia 10 Nov.

**NORTHERN WHEATEAR:** SP 6-7 Oct (MBr, mob, ph), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg rec.

**House Sparrow:** flocks widespread resident in urban/suburban environs.

**American Pipit:** best flocks late Sep-early Nov; max 100 Baldwinsville 26 Oct; last 2 Minetto 20 Nov.

**Evening Grosbeak:** Clinton 6 Sep (JCl); 3 Remsen 23 Oct (DCh); only reps.

**House Finch:** widespread resident; max 35 OLP 21 Nov.

**Purple Finch:** small nums typ locs; max 25 Thendara 29 Nov.

**Common Redpoll:** arr Hastings 3 Nov; 4 DH 4 Nov; max 20 SP 11 Nov; 8 SP 16 Nov; 2 T Onondaga 21 Nov; only reps.

**Red Crossbill:** HI 11 Sep, unusual loc; Bear L HERK 24 Nov; max 5 HF 25 Nov; only reps.

**White-winged Crossbill:** no reps.

**Pine Siskin:** few reps; max 6 Manlius 30 Nov.

**American Goldfinch:** flocks common & widespread; max 328 DH 13 Nov.

**Lapland Longspur:** SP 8-9 Oct (MBr, mob); 1-2 Richland 4-6 Nov (BPu, MBr); max 4 Richland 3 Nov (MBr); DH 23 Nov (JMc); only reps.

**Snow Bunting:** arr 7 FH 23 Oct; max 45 SP 28 Oct.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** no reps.

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 32 WMonroe 17 Oct; last Whitesboro 19 Nov.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** OLP 19 Sep (GDa); only rep.

**Field Sparrow:** max 17 DeWitt 1 Oct; last Syr 25 Nov.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr Pulaski 7 Oct; max 8 T Onondaga 21 Nov; last Hastings 26 Nov.

**American Tree Sparrow:** arr Lebanon MADi 10 Oct; max 16 OLP 25 Nov.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 40 OLP 16 Nov.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr OSP 16 Sep; max 28 OLP 22 Oct; last GLSP 25 Nov.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 210 OLP 22 Oct, good num.

**Vesper Sparrow:** OLP 8 Oct; Salisbury 11 Oct; Remsen 18 Oct; 1-5 Richland 24 Oct – 8 Nov; max 5 Richland 25 Oct; last Richland 8 Nov; only reps.

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 9 OLP 1 Oct; last Richland 4 Nov.

**Song Sparrow:** max 120 OLP 3 Oct.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Salisbury 6 Sep; max 7 OLP 3 Oct; last OLP 22 Oct.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 21 Tully 26 Sep.

**Eastern Towhee:** max 6 SFNS 16 Sep & GLSP 15 Oct; last FH 28 Oct.

**Bobolink:** max 22 MSI 3 Sep; last SFNS 20 Sep.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 26 Pulaski 13 Oct, good num; last Manlius 21 Nov.

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 2 var locs early Sep; last SFNS 14 Sep.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max est 5000 HI 11 Sep & Rome 14 Nov.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 60 Warren HERK 15 Nov.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr SFNS 19 Sep; max 180 Van Buren 23 Oct; last T Mexico 23 Nov.

**Common Grackle:** max est 20000 Constantia 27 Oct (MSc).

**blackbird sp:** 180000 Constantia 5 Nov; max 300000 Constantia 4 Nov (MSc).

**Ovenbird:** max 4 SFNS 9, 16 Sep; last GB 5 Oct.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** no reps.

**Northern Waterthrush:** Baldwinsville 6 Sep; OLP 11 Sep; SFNS 15 Sep; last & max 2 UM 1 Oct; only reps.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** WP 6 Sep (RWi); 2 New Hartford 12 Sep (KSk, LMo); only reps.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 2 OSP 3 Sep; last Clinton 14 Sep.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 3 var locs 3-12 Sep; last Kirkland 28 Sep.

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 10 Clinton 14 Sep; last OLP 22 Oct.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr OSP 27 Sep; max 3 OLP 1 Oct; last Hastings 22 Oct.

**Nashville Warbler:** max 9 OLP 1, 3 Oct; last SSSP 21 Oct.

**Mourning Warbler:** MH 5 Sep (DWe); SP 14 Sep (JKe); only reps.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 12 OLP 3 Oct; last SP 23 Oct.

**Hooded Warbler:** Pulaski 8 Sep; Syr 9 Sep; TR 22 Sep; only reps.

**American Redstart:** max 5 Syr 8 Sep; last Chittenango 11 Oct; DH 22 Nov (DWh, BPu, ph), female type, likely record late for Reg.

**Cape May Warbler:** max 4 Lysander 6 Sep; last Skaneateles 13 Oct.

**Northern Parula:** max 7 OSP 3 Sep; last OSP 5 Oct.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 7 OSP 7 Sep; last TR 12 Oct.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 8 OSP 3 Sep; last Fabius 11 Oct.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 5 OSP 5 Sep & TR 21 Sep; last FH 5 Oct.

**Yellow Warbler:** max 3 SP 1, 19 Sep; last OLP 2 Oct.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 5 HI 11 Sep & MH 5 Sep; last TR 2 Oct.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 14 Jamesville 21 Sep; last GLSP 15 Oct.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 3 Jamesville 24 Sep; last Manlius 10 Oct.

**Palm Warbler:** arr SFNS 3 Sep; max 23 OLP 3 Oct; last SP 6 Nov.

**Pine Warbler:** max 4 Stillwater Res 7 Sep; last Camillus 12 Oct.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 35 FH 18 Sep; 40 SP 8 Oct; max 44 HM 9 Oct; last SSSP 21 Nov.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5):** Three Falls Woods Nature Preserve, Manlius 15 Oct (KMu), well-described.

**Prairie Warbler:** Tully 5 Sep (ABu); only rep.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 9 OSP 6 Sep; last Syr 21 Oct.

**Canada Warbler:** max 2 SFNS 2 Sep & Manlius 4 Sep; last Jamesville 24 Sep.

**Wilson's Warbler:** max 3 SP 11 Sep; last Syr 5 Oct.

**Scarlet Tanager:** max 3 Marcellus 1 Sep; last 2 Manlius 5 Oct.

**Northern Cardinal:** widespread resident.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 4 HI 11 Sep; last Fayetteville 30 Sep.

**Indigo Bunting:** max 9 DB 11 Sep; last HI 9 Oct.

**DICKCISSEL (R5):** OLP 15 Sep (DDo, DAn, mob, ph); DB 19 Sep (GMe).

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## REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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Weather was generally unremarkable this fall. Watertown's mean monthly temperatures for September and November were each less than 1° F below normal, but October was warmer, with a mean temperature of 55.0° that was 4.7° above normal. Total seasonal precipitation was about 2% higher than normal, mostly because the 6.4" of rain that fell in October was 112% of normal. September and November were drier, with precipitation totals that were 6% and 5% below normal, respectively.

Waterfowl numbers were generally low, with only a few unusual species. One Greater White-fronted Goose at Upper and Lower Lakes WMA on 9 October and six Cackling Goose reports were highlights, but for yet another fall Snow

Geese largely passed Region 6 by. Relatively low duck numbers were especially noticeable at Wilson Hill WMA, often the site of the region's largest fall duck concentrations, where Mallard, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, and Redhead were all down 50-65% from peak 2020 numbers. One each Canvasback and Red-crested Pochard were found in the Wilson Hill *Aythya* rafts, the latter presumably an escape and surely the same individual present the previous year. Perhaps the most notable ducks of the season were a Regionally high 25 Ruddy Ducks at Perch Lake on 20 November, and early Barrow's Goldeneye at Pillar Point 25 November and Point Peninsula 30 November.

An **Eared Grebe** in the St. Lawrence River near Massena 24 October was among the season's highlights, but was only seen for an hour or two. Horned Grebes were scarce, but one was near the Wilson Hill causeway at the very early date of 4 September. Cattle Egrets were well reported in western Jefferson County through the first half of November, with as many as six seen at a time, although one to three per day was more typical. During most years Cattle Egrets are seen singly if at all in Region 6. On 25 September Brian Miller photographed a Black Vulture on the Westcott Beach State Park shoreline, the season's only sighting of a species that is increasing modestly throughout the Region.

Despite high water on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River that left little in the way of exposed mudflats, birders did have some luck with shorebirds. Low water continued at the Stone Mills Pool at Perch River WMA, which was probably the Region's most consistent shorebird spot. Among the shorebird highlights here was a Stilt Sandpiper on 17 September, the season's only Red-necked Phalarope on 27 September, and a regionally rare **Long-billed Dowitcher** 8-15 October. Stilt Sandpipers are regular at Perch River but rarely detected elsewhere, so one at Whalen Park on the St. Lawrence River 4 September was a county bird for many observers. Water levels on the stretch of the St. Lawrence between the Iroquois and Moses-Saunders Dam remained high all season, limiting shorebird viewing opportunities, but exposed mudflats on the East Pool at Wilson Hill WMA attracted modest numbers of shorebirds early in the season, including at least two Baird's Sandpipers and the season's only White-rumped Sandpiper.

Nick Leone seems to be the only Regional birder who spent much time lake watching, and he was rewarded with three juvenile **Black-legged Kittiwakes** on 31 October and two more on 22 November, all at Montario Point. Nick also saw the season's only Glaucous Gull at the same location on 19 November. Other larids of note include an adult Little Gull among more than 100 Bonaparte's Gulls at Henderson Harbor on 10 September, and a Forster's Tern at Wilson Hill WMA on 24 September.

On Fort Drum a Red-headed Woodpecker nest that still had one nestling in it on 31 August apparently fledged on the late date of 1 September. At least six adult Red-headed Woodpeckers were observed caching food on Fort Drum during October and November, apparently taking advantage of a large acorn crop to prepare to overwinter. A juvenile Red-headed Woodpecker was at Richard

Brouses's feeders for several days in mid-November. The pace of the Red-bellied Woodpecker expansion seems to be increasing, with reports from more than 40 locations throughout lowland portions of Region 6.

The fall passerine migration was much more active than during the previous two years, with regular pulses of moderate to heavy migration for much of the season except for an extended period during the first half of October when pervasive south winds seemed to shut migration down. Most species didn't seem particularly abundant, but were more conspicuous than during the fall of 2020, when southbound migrants were hard to find in many places. However, Philadelphia Vireo numbers were exceptional, with more than 60 reports and a very high daily maximum of 15 on Fort Drum 9 September. By contrast just two Orange-crowned Warblers represents the lowest fall tally since 2013. Also down were Tree and Barn Swallows, with just seven reports of the former and none of the latter after the first week of September, continuing a troubling trend of declining swallow numbers that has been particularly noticeable the past two years.

On 14 November Jay McGowan, Drew Weber, and Ian Davies encountered impressive numbers of late migrants at Robert Wehle State Park, many apparently taking advantage of a huge red cedar berry crop. Among the hordes of American Robins and Cedar Waxwings were lingering migrants such as White-crowned Sparrow and Cape May Warbler, an impressive 21 Fox Sparrows, and seasonally high tallies of four Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, five Hermit Thrushes, and 29 Yellow-rumped Warblers. Given the abundance of cedar berries it was hoped that many of these birds would stick around a while, so birders were disappointed to find that most of these birds had departed by the following weekend, although Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Hermit Thrushes, and Yellow-rumped Warblers seemed to be settling in for the winter. Many other species were noted at unusually late dates, perhaps most notably a Wood Thrush Larry Chen and Sarah Toner found at Robert Wehle State Park on 24 November.

For the season I received reports of 233 species, a little more than seven above the most recent ten-year mean but identical to the fall 2020 tally. Certainly, a number of interesting birds were seen but there were no stand-out rarities, and as so often occurs in Region 6, most of the rare birds that were found were only seen by one or two birders. At least for this author the true highlight of the season was the relatively good passerine flight, perhaps best represented by the abundance of Philadelphia Vireos. The biggest disappointment was the near lack of swallows and the resultant concern about these and other aerial insectivores.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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Gallup, Rick Gould, David Harrison, Wendi Haugh, Barbara Hostetler, Janelle Jones, Nick Kachala, Steve Kelling, Tom Langen, Nick Leone, Rachel Lewis, Jay McGowan, Brian Miller, Daniel Miller, Ellen Miller, Steven Mix, Asa Reed, Mandi Roggie, Vanessa Rojas, John Roosenberg, Glenn Seeholzer, Gerry Smith, Raymond Spahn, Santi Taberes, Sarah Toner, Conner Vara, Drew Weber, Tom & Eileen Wheeler, Drew Weber, Thomas Winczek, Chris Wood.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondack Mountains; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CPSP** – Cedar Pt SP; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, T Ellisburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **HH** – Henderson Harbor; **HP** – Hawkins Pt, T Massena; **ICNC** – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton; **JEFF** – Jefferson County; **KC** – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; **LBSF** – Lonesome Bay State Forest; **LPd** – Leonard Pd Trail, T Colton; **LPSP** – Long Pt SP; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **MP** – Montario Pt, T Ellisburg; **NNC** – Nicandri Nature Center T Massena; **OEC** – Oswegatchie Educational Center; **PilPt** – Pillar Pt, JEFF; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RLT** – Richard’s Landing Trail, T Massena; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; **RRT** – Remington Recreation Trail, T Canton; **RWSP** – Robert G. Wehle SP; **SaT** – Saddle mire Trail, T Canton; **S BSP** – Southwick Beach SP; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **STLA** – St. Lawrence County; **TP** – Tibbetts Pt; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WBSP** – Westcott Beach SP; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA; **WP** – Whalen P, T Louisville.

**Snow Goose:** arr RMSP 30 Sep; max 185 T Canton 27 Nov; just 14 total reports.  
**Greater White-fronted Goose:** ULLWMA 9 Oct (JB, T & E Wheeler).  
**Brant:** arr RLT 17 Oct; max 360 TP 22 Oct; RMSP 11 Nov only other report.  
**Cackling Goose:** SaT 19 Sep (JB); Brookside cemetery T Watertown 24 Sep & 13 Oct (B. Miller); ULLWMA 8 Oct (N. Kachala); CCSP 5 Nov (N. Kachala); T Waddington 14 Nov (N. Kachala); RRT 20 Nov (JB); more than usual.  
**Mute Swan:** max 46 T Clayton 14 Oct.  
**Trumpeter Swan:** max 27 Perch L 28 Sep.  
**Tundra Swan:** max 450 PtPen 24 Nov.  
**Wood Duck:** max 25 WHWMA 6 Sep; last FD 17 Nov.  
**Blue-winged Teal:** max 104 WP 7 Sep; wounded bird RLT 25 Nov only report after 23 Oct.  
**Northern Shoveler:** max 12 Perch L 20 Nov.

**Gadwall:** max 90 WHWMA 5 Nov.  
**American Wigeon:** max 405 WHWMA 22 Oct.  
**Mallard:** max 470 WHWMA 6 Sep.  
**American Black Duck:** max 250 WHWMA 14 Nov.  
**Northern Pintail:** max 155 WHWMA 13 Nov.  
**Green-winged Teal:** max 575 WHWMA 10 Oct.  
**Canvasback:** f WHWMA 17 Oct only report.  
**Redhead:** max 630 WHWMA 24 Oct.  
**Ring-necked Duck:** max 2665 WHWMA 24 Oct much lower than previous year.  
**Greater Scaup:** max 187 TP 31 Oct.  
**Lesser Scaup:** max 36 WHWMA 30 Oct.  
**Surf Scoter:** arr ULLWMA 2 Oct; MP 19 Nov only other report.  
**White-winged Scoter:** arr CCSP & TP 22 Oct; max 46 MP 19 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** TP 22 Oct & 8 MP 21 Nov only reports.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr TP 24 Oct; max 600 MP 21-24 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** arr ULLWMA 19 Oct.

**Common Goldeneye:** 4 juv Murray I 13 Sep prob from brood that hatched nearby; arr TP 22 Oct.

**Barrow's Goldeneye:** m PilPt 25 Nov (N. Leone); f PtPen 30 Nov (S. Kelling).

**Hooded Merganser:** max 28 RMSP 28 Nov low.

**Common Merganser:** max 228 RMSP 28 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 67 SLR T Massena 28 Nov.

**Ruddy Duck:** 2 WHWMA 17 Oct; 2 ULLWMA 31 Oct to 1 Nov; max 25 Perch L 20 Nov (D. Harrison & J. Roosenberg); only reports.

**Spruce Grouse:** MM 1 Sep only report.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 92 ULLWMA 9 Oct; last 3 ULLWMA 25 Nov.

**Horned Grebe:** early arr WHWMA 4 Sep (B. McAllister, mob); next RLT 17 Oct; only 4 other reports.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr Bonaparte Cave SF 19 Sep; max 2 Wellesley I 10 Oct & RLT 23 Oct.

**EARED GREBE (R6):** RLT 24 Oct (JB, E. Wheeler).

**Common Nighthawk:** last 5 T Carthege & T Canton 11 Sep.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** last Lake of the Woods & T Croghan 4 Sep.

**Chimney Swift:** last RMSP 14 Sep.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last T Lowville 21 Oct (E. Miller) only report after CV 30 Sep, late.

**Virginia Rail:** last 2 PRWMA 4 Sep.

**Common Gallinule:** last 2 PRWMA 15 Oct.

**American Coot:** max 138 WHWMA 29 Oct where last 25 Nov.

**Sandhill Crane:** WHWMA 3 Sep; 2 West Turin 5 Sep; ICNC 5 Oct; last 5 LWMA 14 Nov.

**Black-bellied Plover:** max 17 ED 7 Oct where last 4 29 Oct.

**American Golden-Plover:** WHWMA 1, 11 & 24 Sep; RLT 18 Sep; last T Lyme 5 Oct; only reports.

**Killdeer:** max 62 ED 7 Oct; last T Orleans 4 Nov late (S. Kelling)

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 22 WHWMA 4 Sep; last RLT 12 Oct.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** ED 2 Sep (R. Brouse); RLT 18 Sep (JB, B. Dixon) only reports.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** WP 4 Sep (C. Vara, mob) rare STLA; PRWMA where annual 17 Sep (T. & E. Wheeler).

**Sanderling:** max 38 SBSP 10 Nov

**Dunlin:** max 25 WHWMA 1 Nov.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** max 2 WHWMA 1 Sep where at least one to 4 Sep; CPSP 12 Sep & ED 7 Oct only other reports.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 32 PRWMA 1 Sep.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** WHWMA 1 Sep (N. Kachala) only report.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 4 WHWMA 1 Sep & PRWMA 9 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 15 WHWMA 3 Sep.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** PRWMA 8-15 Oct (C. Wood, D. Weber, mob).

**American Woodcock:** last T Croghan 13 Nov.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 11 WHWMA 4 Sep; last FD 28 Oct.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** last ED 9 Oct.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 5 Perch Lake 28 Sep.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 13 ED 2 Oct.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 9 T Lowville 21 Oct; last RRT 22 Nov.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** PRWMA 27 Sep (JB, R. Brouse, B. Miller) only report.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** max 3 juv MP 31 Oct (N. Leone); 2 juv MP 22 Nov (N. Leone); high.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 127 HH 16 Sep.

**Little Gull:** ad HH 10 Sep (JB).

**Glaucous Gull:** MP 19 Nov.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 150 HP 28 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** last PRWMA 1 Oct.

**Common Tern:** last RLT 11 Sep.

**Forster's Tern:** WHWMA 24 Sep (JB).

**Red-throated Loon:** arr CCSP 29 Oct where only other report 27 Nov; max 2 RWSP 14 Nov; singles MP 19 & 24 Nov; PilPt 23 Nov; only reports.

**Common Loon:** max 54 PilPt 4 Nov.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 450 ED 9 Oct.

**American Bittern:** last WP 4 Sep.

**Great Egret:** max 38 ULLWMA 24 Sep.

**Cattle Egret:** arr & max 6 Dog Hill Rd T Orleans 4 Nov where 2-3/day to 11 Nov (S. Kelling, mob); T Ellisburg 14 Nov (D. Weber, J. McGowan, I Davies); 2 Perch L Rd T Orleans 18 Nov (L. Ellsworth); last T Pamela 19 Nov (JB); more than usual.

**Green Heron:** last CV 20 Sep.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** last 5 PRWMA 4 Sep.

**Black Vulture:** WBSB 25 Sep (B. Miller, photos!)

**Osprey:** last CV 20 Oct (S. Kelling); L Bonaparte 5 Oct (T. Winczek) only other report after 28 Sep.

**Golden Eagle:** FD 4 Nov; T Canton 27 Nov.

**Northern Harrier:** max 6 CV 20 Nov.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 33 reports.

**Cooper's Hawk:** 27 reports.

**Northern Goshawk:** no reports.

**Bald Eagle:** widespread reports 1-5/day.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** last T Clayton 9 Oct.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** last T Canton 2 Oct; scarce after 14 Sep.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr CV 9 Oct (S. Kelling, C. Wood, D. Weber); next report PtPen 20 Oct.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 8 loc W JEFF more than usual.

**Snowy Owl:** arr ULLWMA 20 Nov; Dablon Pt CV, T Hammond & PtPen 30 Nov suggest small movement.

**Short-eared Owl:** arr & max 3 CV 16 Nov.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** CV 9 Oct (S. Kelling, C. Wood, D. Weber) (; T Orleans 21 Nov (J. Roosenberg); only reports.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** FD nest fledged 1 y 1 Sep (JB) late; juv KC 15-19 Nov (R. Brouse, R. Lewis, B. Miller); 6 still present FD end Nov likely overwintering.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** reports from 40+ loc; continuing to expand in all lowland areas.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** mostly departed by 10 Oct but unprecedented number in Nov; max 2-4/day RWSP 14-30 Nov; other Nov reports from KC, LWMA & RLT.

**Black-backed Woodpecker:** LPd 14 Oct & MM 17 Oct only reports.

**American Kestrel:** multiple loc NW JEFF late Nov suggesting >8-10 overwintering; scarce after 24 Oct elsewhere.

**Merlin:** 50+ reports; continues to increase year-round.

**Peregrine Falcon:** FD 4 Oct.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** last ED 17 Sep.

**Eastern Kingbird:** last T Canton 7 Sep.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** T Croghan 1 Sep; FD 3 Sep; Five Ponds Wilderness 7 Sep; only reports.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** last RRT 5 Oct only report after 27 Sep.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last FD 29 Sep.

**Alder Flycatcher:** last Five Ponds Wilderness 7 Sep.

**Willow Flycatcher:** RRT 4 Sep & last FD 13 Sep only reports.

**Least Flycatcher:** last RMSP 30 Sep.

**Eastern Phoebe:** last PtPen 28 Oct.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last FD 28 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** last FD 28 Oct late.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 15 FD 9 Sep high (JB); last WP 8 Oct late; 60+ reported high; last WP 8 Oct (JB).

**Warbling Vireo:** last ICNC & WBSB 25 Sep.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** last RRT 1 Oct.

**Northern Shrike:** arr FD 19 Oct.

**Canada Jay:** max 7 near Horseshoe L 19 Oct.

**Blue Jay:** max 565 PtPen 19 Sep.

**American Crow:** max 3150 FD 27 Oct.

**Boreal Chickadee:** no reports.

**Horned Lark:** max 26 T Canton 17 Nov.

**Bank Swallow:** last PRWMA 1 Sep.

**Tree Swallow:** max 100 PRWMA 4 Sep; last RLT 17 Oct; only 5 additional reports; unusually scarce.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** last RWSP 4 Sep.

**Barn Swallow:** last WHWMA 6 Sep.

**Cliff Swallow:** last RWSP 4 Sep only report.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr T Hammond 2 Sep early; next report outside Adirondacks FD 9 Sep; max 73 FD 4 Oct; last 3 RWSP 14 Nov but generally absent after 25 Oct.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr T Canton 9 Sep; max 47 FD 5 Oct.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 400 RWSP 14 Nov.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last FD 9 Sep.

**House Wren:** last T Potsdam 16 Oct.

**Winter Wren:** migrants arr FD 13 Sep.

**Marsh Wren:** last FD 15 Oct.

**Carolina Wren:** reports from 7 locations.

**Gray Catbird:** last FD 3 Nov (JB) late; T Potsdam 22 Oct (N. Kachala) only other report after 12 Oct.

**Brown Thrasher:** last FD 13 Oct.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 20 FD 20 Sep.

**Veery:** last RRT 18 Sep.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** last Clarkson U 13 Oct; 4 other reports.

**Swainson's Thrush:** last T Croghan 13 Oct.

**Hermit Thrush:** 5 RWSP 14 Nov high for so late; increasingly regular thru Nov.

**Wood Thrush:** RWSP 24 Nov (L. Chen, S. Toner) late, only report after 26 Sep.

**American Pipit:** arr ED 10 Sep; max 125 CV 8 Oct; last FD 4 Nov.

**House Finch:** max 20 MP 21 Nov.

**Purple Finch:** max 22 Clarkson U 20 Oct.

**Common Redpoll:** arr RLT 5 Nov; 2 T Canton 18 Nov & 2 FD 19 Oct only other reports.

**Red Crossbill:** max 15 MM 17 Oct; only 4 other reports all ADK.

**White-winged Crossbill:** max 21 FD 28 Oct; 5 Low's Ridge-Upper Dam trail 30 Oct & 6 Cranberry L 16 Nov only other reports.

**Pine Siskin:** max 30 MM 17 Oct; mostly scarce.

**American Goldfinch:** max 48 RLT 5 Nov.

**Lapland Longspur:** CCSP 5 Nov only report.

**Snow Bunting:** arr FD & T Lyme 28 Oct; max 250 CV 17 Nov.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** identified by nocturnal flight call OEC 10 Sep (S. Taberes, D. Benvent, A. Bechler) only report.

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 60 FD 28 Sep; last T Norwood 30 Nov.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** last 2 FD 3 Sep includes singing adult.

**Field Sparrow:** last KC 14 Nov.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr NNC 30 Sep; max 21 RWSP 14 Nov; last LBSF 20 Nov.

**American Tree Sparrow:** arr SaT 23 Oct.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 123 CV 7 Oct.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr NNC 16 Sep; max 22 T Lyme 5 Oct; last RWSP 14 Nov late.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 133 FD 29 Sep.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 30 FD 3 Sep; last FD 28 Oct.

**Savannah Sparrow:** last T Lyme 12 Oct.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr FD 9 Sep; max 4 FD 13 Sep; last FD 18 Oct.

**Swamp Sparrow:** last PRWMA 7 Nov.

**Eastern Towhee:** last ULLWMA 22 Oct.

**Bobolink:** last RLT 11 Sep.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** last T Lyme 28 Oct.

**Baltimore Oriole:** last Otter Creek Preserve 7 Sep.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** scarce after 30 Oct.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr SaT 19 Sep; max 680 PRWMA 8 Oct; last FD 15 Nov.

**Ovenbird:** last FD 5 Oct.

**Northern Waterthrush:** last RRT 5 Sep.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** last FD 2 Sep.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** last FD 14 Sep.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** last RRT 9 Oct.

**Tennessee Warbler:** 4 LPSP 9 Oct high for so late; last FD 14 Oct.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** T Potsdam 26 Sep; FD 13 & 21 Oct; only reports, low.

**Nashville Warbler:** last FD 14 Oct.

**Mourning Warbler:** last NNC 16 Sep.

**Common Yellowthroat:** last FD 28 Oct late.

**American Redstart:** last NNC 30 Sep.

**Cape May Warbler:** RWSP 14 Nov only report after 9 Oct.

**Northern Parula:** last FD 14 Oct.

**Magnolia Warbler:** last PtPen 9 Oct.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** last LPSP 9 Oct.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** last FD 22 Sep.

**Yellow Warbler:** last NNC 16 Sep.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** last FD 21 Sep.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** last RRT 16 Oct.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** last FD 14 Oct.

**Palm Warbler:** last T Potsdam 16 Oct.

**Pine Warbler:** last FD 5 Oct.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 24 RWSP 24 Nov high for so late; generally high W JEFF late Nov.

**Prairie Warbler:** last FD 3 Sep.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** last FD 14 Oct.



**Canada Warbler:** last ED 10 Sep.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** last FD 29 Sep.

**Scarlet Tanager:** last Thompson Park T  
Watertown 1 Oct.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** last FD 13 Oct.  
**Indigo Bunting:** last FD 7 Oct.

#### **EXOTICS**

**Red-crested Pochard:** f WHWMA 10 Oct  
(JB) likely same individual present at same  
location fall 2020.



## **REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN**

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September's temperatures in Region 7 were above recent averages by 1-3° in Essex and Hamilton Counties, the Region's southern half. This was also true for much of Clinton County including all of the Champlain Valley. In the rest of Clinton and most of Franklin County temperatures deviated from average by less than a degree in either direction. Rainfall for the Region was a remarkably uniform 3-4" over the entire area.

Temperatures for the month of October were 5-7° above normal throughout most of Region 7. The exceptions were the Champlain Valley including the central portion of Clinton County which was 3-5° warmer, and a narrow band along the border between Hamilton and Franklin Counties which was more than 7° warmer.

In October precipitation was spotty overall, but nowhere less than 3". The northern portions of Clinton and Franklin Counties received 5-6" except along their common border where the total was 7-8". Most of Hamilton and almost all of Essex County got 4-5". The southernmost area of Hamilton County received 6-7".

A very rainy period began at the end of the October and carried over into November (see lake level below). Overall November was a wet month with most of Region 7 receiving 3-4". The High Peaks Region and an area astride the border between Franklin and Clinton Counties were even wetter, receiving 4-5" of precipitation (melted equivalent). A few scattered areas in the southern two thirds

of Region 7 were drier with only 2-3" for the month. Temperatures for most of the Region deviated from recent averages by less than a degree either way. Hamilton County was an exception where almost all of it was 1-3° colder. This was also the case in an area bisecting Region 7 west to east.

On 1 September the level of Lake Champlain stood at an unusually low 94.8', and continued to drop throughout the month into the middle of October where its low for the season was 94.3'. For most of the rest of October it rose slowly to 94.6'. A week of rainy weather pushed the level to 95.5' in early November. There it plateaued until the middle of the month. The high for the month, 95.9', was reached near the end of the month. These levels favored shorebirding at Noblewood Park but were disastrous for Laurin's Pool, where it dried up so thoroughly that it was covered with vegetation more than a foot high except where an ATV oval had been worn in the brick hard mud.

To date the facts on the ground compare favorably to the predictions of the Winter Finch Forecast (WFF). As predicted Pine Grosbeaks and Bohemian Waxwings were absent. The White-winged Crossbills we were told to expect were first reported in late September and many times thereafter. As many as 27 individuals were counted in one report. Common and Hoary Redpolls were expected to stay north this winter. Hoarys were absent and Common Redpolls were reported in low numbers, 1-6 from only three sites. The WFF expected some southward movement of Evening Grosbeaks, which is consistent with the three reports counted. Region 7's resident populations of Red Crossbill, Purple Finch and Pine Siskin make it difficult to assess how closely the observations compare with the predictions.

The bird of the season has to be the **Razorbill**, a first for Region 7, that was present at Crown Point 6-15 November and documented by many observers. Notably, two were seen on 10 November. The runner-up was a **Northern Gannet**, only the Region's second record, seen on 6 November. The two were a remarkable daily double on the sixth. **Tufted Duck** continued its now almost yearly appearance on Lake Champlain, lingering from 24 November through the first week of December. **Sandhill Crane** was sighted once in late September and a second time in a late November flyover of four individuals. The third appearance of **Barnacle Goose** in the last twenty years was recorded at three locations, likely the same bird, between Fort Covington and Trout River 7-9 November. **Cattle Egret** was reported from Franklin and Clinton Counties ten days and more than fifty miles apart. Historically this egret once bred on one of the Four Brothers Islands, but recently has been a rare visitor to Region 7 with only three records in the past twenty years. **Golden Eagle** was reported twice, nine days apart, from Madawaska Flow in November. A **Snowy Owl** was found resting on a wood pile at the edge of a field on Cumberland Head and captured on film as it flew off. A rare visitor to the region, **Dickcissel** was seen in late September in Essex County. This was the fourth eBird record in the last twenty years and the thirteenth overall, when records from the older literature are included.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**4BI** – Four Brothers Islands; **AFT** – Art Farm Trail; **AHR** – Angier Hill Rd; **AL** – Adirondack Loj; **AM** – Ausable Marsh; **AMD** – Ausable Marsh delta area; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **APk** – Algonquin Peak; **APN** – Ausable Pt, north of entrance; **ARD** – Ausable Ri Delta; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BBS** – Bloomingdale Bog South; **Blo** – Bloomingdale; **BML** – Blue Mt L; **BRd** – Bigelow Rd; **BRM** – Boquet Ri Mouth; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **BWB** – Bulwaga Bay; **CBY** – Cumberland Bay; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **Che** – Chesterfield; **CHSP** – Cumberland Head SP; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CRd** – Christian Rd; **CSq** – Consumer Square; **DPR** – Debar P Rd; **DRd** – Davis Rd; **DrR** – Drown Rd; **EAW** – Eight Acre Wood; **Es** – Essex; **FRd** – Forestdale Rd; **FtC** – Fort Covington; **Gab** – Gabriels; **GBM** – Gilbert Brook Marina; **HB** – Hoisington Beach; **HBO** – Hoisington Brook Outlet; **HHR** – Halleck Hill Rd; **HRd** – Hayford Rd; **ILk** – Indian L; **JMT** – Jay Mt Trail; **KB** – Kings Bay; **Kee** – Keeseville; **KN** – Keene; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LCl** – Lake Clear; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute Ticonderoga Marsh; **LkP** – Lake Pelagic; **LL** – Long L; **LP** – Lake Placid; **LPI** – Lake Pleasant; **LPW** – Long Pd Willsboro; **LSR** – Lake Shore Rd; **MF** – Madawaska Flow; **MFr** – Miner Farm; **Min** – Minerva; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MRP** – Malone Rec P; **MT** – Magic Triangle; **NHu** – North Hudson; **NP** – Noblewood P; **OH** – Owls Head; **OPR** – Oregon Plains Rd; **PAP** – Piseco Airport; **PBM** – Plattsburgh Marina; **PH** – Port Henry; **PL** – Piseco L; **PM** – Plattsburgh Marina; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **Sar** – Saranac; **SbB** – Sabattis Bog; **SdP** – Sand Pd; **SLB** – Silver L Bog; **SMB** – Spruce Mill Brook; **SPd** – Shaw Pd; **SPT** – Stony Pt; **SRd** – Stetson Rd; **SRM** – Saranac Ri Mouth; **SSR** – Sulfur Springs Rd; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **TrR** – Trimble Rd; **UFP**

– Union Falls Pd; **VV** – Vermontville; **WB** – Wallons Bay; **WBR** – Wallons Bay Rd; **WD** – Wilcox Dock; **Wes** – Westville; **WF** – Whiteface Mt; **WI** – Willsboro; **WM** – Wickham Marsh; **WP** – Westport; **WPd** – Wolf Pd; **WPM** – Westport Marina; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp.

**Snow Goose:** 2 KB 30 Sep (SR), first; 7000 SPt 20 Nov (KC).

**Snow X Ross's Goose:** MRP 28 OCT (SR).

**Snow X Canada Goose:** HB 22 Oct (DHR); MRP 28 Oct (SR).

**Ross's Goose:** MRP 10 & 28 Oct (EW & SR).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** MRP 9-28 Oct (SR).

**Brant:** 1100 PH 2 Nov (SR).

**BARNACLE GOOSE:** SSR 6 Nov (AB)

**Cackling Goose:** 7 KB 30 Sep (SR).

**Canada Goose:** 6000 MRP 20 Oct (JJ).

**Wood Duck:** 115 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).

**Blue-winged Teal:** 25 LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

**Northern Shoveler:** 6 APN 7 Oct (SR).

**Gadwall:** 10 CP 29 Nov (LV).

**American Wigeon:** 17 CP 8 Nov (JS).

**American Black Duck:** 31 CP 12 Oct (SR).

**Northern Pintail:** 20 CP 4 Oct (SR).

**Green-winged Teal:** 30 AM 7 Oct (SR).

**Redhead:** CP 5 Nov (SR).

**Ring-necked Duck:** 58 CP 12 Oct (SR); 156 LPW 21 Oct (DHR).

**TUFTED DUCK (R7):** PH 24-30 Nov (SR, m. ob.).

**Greater Scaup:** 3000 AM 18 Oct (GC).

**Lesser Scaup:** 690 CP 28 Nov (ABu).

**Surf Scoter:** CP 8 Oct (SR).

**White-winged Scoter:** NP 8 Oct (RB).

**Black Scoter:** HBO 30 Oct (SR).

**Long-tailed Duck:** 2 BWB 29 Oct (SR); 24 CP 16 Nov (GC).

**Bufflehead:** 56 CP 11 Nov (SR).

**Common Goldeneye:** 22 BWB 22 Oct (SR).

**Hooded Merganser:** 40 TI 28 Nov.

**Common Merganser:** 29 WD 30 Sep (SR).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 9 NP 29 Sep (GC).

**Ruddy Duck:** CP 20 Oct (SR); 3 CP 2 Nov (SR).

**Wild Turkey:** 86 SSR 25 Nov (JS).

**Ruffed Grouse:** 4 OPR 24 Oct (MBA).

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 4 BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 5 CP 30 Sep (DHR).

**Horned Grebe:** 8 CBy 14 Oct (SR).

**Red-necked Grebe:** NP 21 Sep (JB).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Gab 10 Oct (SMc).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** PS 9 Sep (MS).

**Common Nighthawk:** 9 Kee 3 Sep (AB).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** BRR 14 Sep (G&MC); MFr 21 Sep (NO, MSm).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** BRR 22 Oct (G&MC), late.

**Virginia Rail:** LCTM 1 Sep (SR); SPd 21 Sep (GL).

**Common Gallinule:** AP 24 Sep (DHR); CP 30 Sep (DHR); 3 AP 2 Oct (JMC); 4 AP 5 Oct (BMc).

**American Coot:** CP 30 Sep (DHR); CP 8 Oct (SR); 19 PH 14 Nov (SR).

**SANDHILL CRANE (R7):** 3 FtC 4 Sep (JF); 4 WP 27 Nov (SR).

**Black-bellied Plover:** NP 16 Sep (JK).

**American Golden-Plover:** 2 BRM 19 Sep (DHR); HBO 14 Oct (DHR).

**Killdeer:** 25 BRM 2 Sep (DHR).

**Semipalmated Plover:** 2 PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 10 NP 20 Sep (RB).

**Sanderling:** PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 3 NP 5 Nov (DHR), late.

**Dunlin:** BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 4 BRM 9 Sep (DHR); 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR).

**Least Sandpiper:** ARD 9 Sep (SR).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 2 BRM 9 Sep (DHR); AM 17 Sep (DHR); 2 BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** PtR 6 Sep (DHR).

**American Woodcock:** Sar 13 Oct (KH).

**Wilson's Snipe:** LCTM 3 Oct (SR).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** 4 CP 2 Sep (SR).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** 2 AM 18 Sep (MA).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** 7 BRM 2 Sep (DHR).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR); 14 AM 18 Oct (GC).

**RAZORBILL:** CP 6-15 Nov (GC, m.ob.); 2 CP 10 Nov (GC).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 68 GBM 30 Sep (SR).  
**Iceland Gull:** PH 16 Nov (L&MB).  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 3 SRM 3 Sep (AB).  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** 10 LkP 29 Sep.  
**Herring X Great Black-backed Gull:** NP thru 13 Nov (DHR, mob); SRM 9 Sep – 7 Oct (SR).  
**Caspian Tern:** 3 CP 4 Sep (AB).

**Red-throated Loon:** WPM 24 Oct (SR); 18 CP 10 Nov (GC).  
**Common Loon:** 49 LCI 29 Sep (JB); 110 CP 10 Nov (GC).

**NORTHERN GANNET (R7):** CP 6 Nov (OP, m.ob.).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 800 4BI 17 Sep (CR).

**American Bittern:** BB 15 Sep (JB).  
**Great Blue Heron:** 4 APN 1 Oct (JB).  
**Great Egret:** 5 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).  
**CATTLE EGRET (R7):** LSR 4 Nov (TF); SSR 14-5 Nov (NM, m.ob.).  
**Green Heron:** 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR), Co-FL.  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

**Black Vulture:** 5 Che 16 Oct (MP).  
**Turkey Vulture:** 37 LA 10 Sep (GD).

**Osprey:** AM 24 Oct (MA).

**GOLDEN EAGLE (R7):** MF 21 Nov (BBg); MF 30 Nov (ABu).  
**Northern Harrier:** 2 WB 27 Nov (SR).  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 2 SbB 2 Oct (LC).  
**Cooper's Hawk:** 2 AP 7 Oct (SR).  
**Northern Goshawk:** BRd 5 Oct (TW).  
**Bald Eagle:** 3 NHu 12 Oct (MT).  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** LCTM 1 Sep (SR).  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** 14 WRS 19 Sep (BMc).  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** 4 WP 9 Oct (JS).  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** MT 30 Oct (BMc).

**Eastern Screech Owl:** ARD 9 Sep (SR).  
**Great Horned Owl:** CH 28 Oct (SJ).  
**SNOWY OWL(R7):** CH 29 Nov (EL).  
**Barred Owl:** 4 BRR 10 Oct (G&MC).  
**Short-eared Owl:** 6 AHR 29 Nov (DHR).  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** MFr 21 Sep (NO,MSm); EAW 28 Oct (GLE); WPt 3 Nov (DHR).

**Belted Kingfisher:** 5 DPR 4 Oct (JP).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 3 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 4 BB 16 Sep (JB).  
**Black-backed Woodpecker:** 2 BB 19 Sep (KD).  
**Northern Flicker:** 3 AM 24 Sep (DHR).  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** 2 FRd 21 Sep (AB).

**American Kestrel:** 4 FRd 21 Sep (AB).  
**Merlin:** 2 WF 25 Sep (KC).  
**Peregrine Falcon:** SRM 9 Sep (SR).

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** ILk 10 Sep (MMo).  
**Eastern Kingbird:** 3 AM 7 Sep (OS).  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Es 14 Sep (GS).  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** OPR 10 Oct (BW), late.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** LP 8 Sep (NM).  
**Least Flycatcher:** Gab 17 Sep (SMc).  
**Eastern Phoebe:** 3 Gab 8 Sep (SMc).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** LCTM 1 Sep (SR).  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS); Keeseville 28 Oct (SR), late.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** 3 LA 10 Sep (DHR).  
**Warbling Vireo:** 4 LA 10 Sep (m. ob.).  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** 7 ARD 9 Sep (SR), Co-FL.

**Northern Shrike:** PAp 5 Nov (JCo).

**Canada Jay:** 8 BB 19 Nov (EG).  
**Fish Crow:** 4 DRd 4 Sep (BB); CSq 17 Oct (KC).  
**Common Raven:** 5 AM 29 Sep (BC, LS, CS).

**Boreal Chickadee:** 6 OPR 3 Oct (DY).  
**Tufted Titmouse:** 3 CH 22 Nov (NO).

**Horned Lark:** SRd 7 Oct (SR); 50 HRd 20 Nov (SR).

**Bank Swallow:** NP 17 Sep (RB).  
**Tree Swallow:** 3 Np 17 (RB).  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 4 PS 8 Sep (SMc).  
**Barn Swallow:** 14 Gab 8 Sep (SMc).  
**Cliff Swallow:** 2 PS 8 Sep (SMc).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** 7 AM 7 Oct (SR).  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 4 SLB 6 Sep (AB), Co-FL.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 16 OPR 3 Oct (DY).

**Brown Creeper:** CHSP 23 Oct (GC).

**House Wren:** Gab 9 Oct (SMc).

**Winter Wren:** 5 WPd 25 Sep (JSw).

**Marsh Wren:** 4 AM 3 Oct (KMc).

**Carolina Wren:** 4 LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

**Gray Catbird:** 4 CP 23 Sep (KMCA).

**Brown Thrasher:** WI 3 Oct (WH).

**Northern Mockingbird:** PBM 21 Oct (SR).

**Eastern Bluebird:** 22 BRR Oct 11 (G&MC).

**Veery:** BB 16 Sep (JB).

**Gray-checked Thrush:** Blo 8 Sep (MS); MM 14-20 Nov (SR), late.

**Bicknell's Thrush:** APk 25 Sep (MR); Bmt 25 Sep (GL).

**Swainson's Thrush:** 3 LPI 17 Sep.

**Hermit Thrush:** CP 16 Nov (MI).

**American Pipit:** 70 Gab 28 Sep (NM).

**Evening Grosbeak:** BML 6 Nov.

**Purple Finch:** 8 PtR 21 Oct (SR).

**Common Redpoll:** 6 FtC 8 Nov (SR).

**Red Crossbill:** 25 VV 10 Nov (BM).

**Red Crossbill type 10:** 2 PS 4 Sep (NM).

**White-winged Crossbill:** 3 SbB 21 Sep (GL); 7 SbB 4 Oct (DY).

**Pine Siskin:** 6 SdP 18 Oct (RB); 60; ILk 27 Nov (TA).

**American Goldfinch:** 118 NP 3 Nov (DHR).

**Snow Bunting:** 3 AM 27 Oct (GC).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

**Chipping Sparrow:** 3 OH 2 Sep (JT), Co-FL; LL 10 Nov (GD).

**Field Sparrow:** ILk 19 Oct (MMo).

**Fox Sparrow:** 2 SSR 9 Oct (SR).

**American Tree Sparrow:** HHR 23 Oct (SR).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 66 LA 14 Oct (SR).

**White-throated Sparrow:** 8 PS 5 Oct (NM).

**Vesper Sparrow:** 2 CRd 18 Oct (RB); WRS 21 Oct (SR); 2 Westport 22 Oct (DHR); 2 DrR 24 Oct (SR) TrR 27 Oct (SR)

**Savannah Sparrow:** 16 WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 3 AM 27 Sep (GC); 5 Gab 11 Oct (SMc).

**Swamp Sparrow:** 22 AM 27 Sep (GC); LL 10 Nov (GD), late.

**Eastern Towhee:** AFT 5 Oct (SR).

**Bobolink:** WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** SSR 9 Oct (SR).

**Baltimore Oriole:** CP 2 Sep (SR).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 20 WP 27 Nov (SR).

**Rusty Blackbird:** 4 AM 29 Sep (BC, LS, CS).

**Ovenbird:** AL 1 Oct (CA).

**Northern Waterthrush:** PL 10 Sep (CK).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** WRS 2 Sep (SR).

**Black and White Warbler:** AM 27 Sep (GC).

**Tennessee Warbler:** 4 UFP 6 Sep (AB).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** BRM 19 Sep (SR); Min 5 Oct (DY); 2 BB 5 Oct (JP).

**Nashville Warbler:** 4 UFP 6 Sep (AB).

**Common Yellowthroat:** 4 ARD 9 Sep (SR).

**American Redstart:** BWB 27 Sep (SR).

**Cape May Warbler:** KN 26 Sep (LM).

**Northern Parula:** KB 14 Oct (SR); BWB 29 Oct (SR), late.

**Magnolia Warbler:** 6 SLB 6 Sep (AB).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** 4 SLB 6 Sep (AB).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** Es 23 Sep (JSw).

**Yellow Warbler:** LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** MM 16 Sep (SR).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS); CRd 20 Oct (SR), late.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** CP 4 Oct (SR).

**Palm Warbler:** 4 NP 16 Sep (JK).

**Pine Warbler:** LP 26 Sep (JSw).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 35 JMT 28 Sep (PW); 88 CP 30 Sep (DHR).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS).

**Canada Warbler:** MM 22 Sep (SR).

**Wilson's Warbler:** FRd 18 Sep (AB); 4

LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

**Scarlet Tanager:** FRd 18 Sep (AB); 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** AFT 22 Sep (JSw).

**Indigo Bunting:** 5 BRR 2 Sep (G&MC).

**DICKCISSEL (R7):** SMB 23 Sep (JS).

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## REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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	Albany			Glens Falls		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	62.2°	63.5°	-1.3°	60.8°	59.7°	+1.1°
Oct	56.8°	51.4°	+5.4°	53.2°	48.0°	+5.2°
Nov	38.8°	40.5°	-1.7°	35.1°	33.0°	-2.1°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	5.74"	3.73"	+2.01"	4.18"	3.05"	+0.88"
Oct	7.18"	3.85"	+3.33"	5.67"	3.68"	+1.99"
Nov	2.29"	2.99"	-0.70"	2.15"	3.01"	-0.86"

Autumn 2021 had a precipitation surplus, especially in the southern half of Region 8. Temperatures were near normal in September and November, but October was well above normal. Migrant songbirds lingered later than usual and half-hardies seemed abundant and widespread. The first freeze at Albany did not occur until 2 November, and the first measurable snow was 26 November.

**Razorbill** was the ‘Bird of the Season’ in Region 8. Numerous observers on both the New York and Vermont sides of Lake Champlain reported one or more Razorbills starting in early November, to the north of the Region. On 18 November one was spotted just after dawn from Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial Park in extreme northeastern Washington County. Later in the morning, what was presumably the same individual was seen flying south along the narrow southern end of the lake from Clemons Marsh north of Whitehall, Washington County.

Two **White-eyed Vireos** were seen and photographed near Colonie Mohawk River Park in Albany County on 24 October. Rather than being an infrequent Spring ‘overshoot’, this species seems to show up during fall migration in this area. A **Stilt Sandpiper** was discovered in a flooded, recently manured farm field in Selkirk, Albany County on 17 October. One of the harder-to-find shorebirds in the Region, the most recent record before this was from 2017. Another Stilt Sandpiper was seen at Clemons Marsh in Washington County on 26 September. **Cattle Egrets** were observed in several locations this fall, part of a large incursion/dispersal into the northeastern states. Two Cattle Egrets were photographed near Ancram, Columbia County on 18 October. Singletons were observed near Athens, Greene County on 6 November, and at Tomhannock Reservoir in Rensselaer County on 20 November. The latter bird was discovered

perched above the water in an old cormorant nest. A **Mississippi Kite** was observed from Black Creek Marsh in Albany County, circling overhead, and moving off to the south. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was seen near the Columbia County Airport in Ghent on 8 October. Finally, in one of the more unusual occurrences of the fall, Tristan Lowery found two (presumably not the same bird) **Dickcissels**, five days and about five miles apart. The first was at Normanskill Farm in the City of Albany, 2 October, and the second was at the former Bender Melon Farm property in New Scotland, Albany County, 7 October.

A **Barnacle Goose** showed up in a flock of Canada Geese at Cobleskill Reservoir in Schoharie County on 6 October. An observer at Hudson Crossing Park in Saratoga County on 30 October reported a flyover **Tundra Swan**, identified by flight call.

A lone **Canvasback** was reported from the Tomhannock Reservoir in Rensselaer County on 4 November, the only report of that species in Region 8 this autumn. **Redheads** were hardly more plentiful, with two seen at Basic Creek Reservoir in Albany County on 21 October, and a single female at Saratoga Lake, Saratoga County on 26 November.

Bill Cook reported a **Sandhill Crane** was seen at the Columbia County Airport near Ghent on 15 November. **Black-bellied Plover** was a nice late shorebird at Cohoes Flats in Albany County, seen on 29-30 September. A **Baird's Sandpiper** was photographed at Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial Park in Washington County on 12 September. At Lasher Park in Germantown, Columbia County, a **Ruddy Turnstone** was photographed on 9 September. A **Common Tern** and five 'sterna' sp. were observed along the Hudson River south of Germantown, Columbia County on 17 September.

A very late **Worm-eating Warbler** was sighted at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on 23 September.

Bob Yunick shared some interesting observations, as always, in his Fall 2021 Field Notes, excerpted here:

“The following are observations from my feeding/banding locations in the Schenectady, NY area: **1)** feeder in my yard (**yard**) at Schenectady, and my Adirondack feeding/banding operation at **Jenny Lake (JL)** at 1250 ft. elev. 5 mi W of the Village of Corinth in the Town of Corinth, Saratoga Co, NY; **2)** raptor banding locations in the Towns of Florida (**TF**) and Glen (**TG**) in Montgomery Co (**MC**), NY, and in the Town of Ft. Edward (**FE**), Washington Co, NY and Town of Northumberland (**NUL**), Saratoga Co, NY; **3)** Tomhannock Res. (**TR**) near Pittstown, Rensselaer Co, NY.

**1) Purple Finch** breeding season at JL featured a welcomed uptick in numbers captured, but also a marked increase in conjunctivitis. Total captures were 198: 171 banded and 27 returns from previous years, the oldest of which were a M and F 7 yrs old. The banding total was enhanced by an unexpected 94 imm, the largest catch since 105 in 2012



and compared to 20 banded in 2020 and 6 each in 2019 and 2018. The 52-yr trend at JL of banding this bird which prefers cool forest habitat has been downward due to warming climate. Last banding on 9/11, after a massive exodus by 9/4 and last capture on 9/26.

**2) Ruby-thr Hummer** season at JL ended with last bird banded 9/17, seen again 9/18, later than usual, a total 49 banded, only 5 return captures (much lower than usual) for a total of 54 birds. While numbers of birds captured annually has varied up and down, the trend line for this species is unfortunately downward from a peak in 2003 when 185 birds were captured (bandings + returns) and sugar water consumption that year was 30,495 g compared to this year's 6514 g.

**3) Snow Goose** 62 in a cut cornfield at NUL with 260 **Canadas** 11/28; 595 Canadas MC 11/18, and only 412 Canadas 11/9 at TR where double or triple that should have been seen. A possible cause in the decline at TR was a newly practiced corn harvesting procedure which we observed at TR. The numerous corn fields round the reservoir were cut flush to the ground, something I've never seen before, compared to prior harvesting that cut stalks 15-18" high leaving spilled corn to attract geese. Every flush-cut field, and there were many, were devoid of geese."

230 species were recorded in Region 8 during the period.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Ramona Bearor, Susan Beaudoin, Mike Birmingham, Nancy Castillo, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Brianna Denoncour, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, David DiSiena, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Scott Fackenthall, Larry Federman, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Yahoo Group, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer & Cathy Graichen, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, John Shea, Marian Sole, George Steele, Scott Stoner, Craig Thompson, Alison Van Keuren, Rich White, Phil Whitney, Tom & Colleen Williams, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**APBP** – Albany Pine Bush Pres, ALBA; **AR** – Alcove Res, ALBA; **BCM** – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; **BCR** – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CCGP** – Cossackie Creek Grasslands Pres, GREE; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **CL** – Collins L, SCHE; **CRM** – Cline Rd. Marsh, FULT; **FR** – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; **FtEG** – Ft. Edward Grasslands, WASH; **FV** – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; **HP** – Huyck Pres, ALBA; **OCA** – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; **PRWMA** – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENN; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WMP** – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

**Snow Goose:** max 500 FR 28 Nov.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 3 Collins L SCHE 4 Nov; 2 Cossackie Res GREE 31 Oct.

**Brant:** max 60 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 19 Oct.

**BARNACLE GOOSE:** Cobleskill Res SCHO 6 Oct, *NYARC, intro.*

**Cackling Goose:** 9 reports of singletons.

**Canada Goose:** max 2500 Hudson Crossing P SARA 15 Nov.

**Mute Swan:** max 7 BCR 7 Nov.

**Tundra Swan:** Hudson Crossing P SARA 30 Oct.

**Wood Duck:** max 97 Halfmoon SARA 16 Sep.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 25 Clemons Marsh WASH 26 Sep.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 20 Stanton Pd ALBA 21 Nov.

**Gadwall:** max 100 Stanton Pd ALBA 21 Nov.

**American Wigeon:** max 200 Stanton Pd ALBA 26 Oct.

**Mallard:** max 210 Saratoga L SARA 29 Nov.

**American Black Duck:** max 70 Galway L SARA 29 Nov.

**Northern Pintail:** max 12 Stanton Pd ALBA 11 Nov.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 38 Stanton Pd ALBA 16 Oct.

**Canvasback:** TR 4 Nov, only report.

**Redhead:** 2 BCR 21 Oct; Saratoga L SARA 26 Nov, only reports.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 500 Loughberry L SARA 11 Nov.

**Greater Scaup:** max 4 Pittstown RENS 14 Nov; 4 Galway L SARA 29 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 113 Loughberry L SARA 30 Nov.

**Surf Scoter:** 3 TR 27 Oct; 3 AR 30 Oct.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 7 Broadalbin Boat Launch FULT 5 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** max 35 Cobleskill Res SCHO 27 Oct.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 9 TR 4 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** max 150 Saratoga L SARA 15 Nov.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 100 Saratoga L SARA 25 Nov.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 204 Galway L SARA 29 Nov.

**Common Merganser:** max 300 Kinderhook L COLU 29 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 15 Yankee Hill Lock MONT 20 Oct.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 550 BCR 31 Oct.

**Wild Turkey:** max 40 Cherry Plain SP RENS 5 Sep.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 6 Granville WASH 8 Oct.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** max 4 Chatham COLU 5 Oct.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 6 TR 6 Nov.

**Horned Grebe:** max 5 Broadalbin boat Launch FULT 5 Nov.

**Red-necked Grebe:** Glens Falls WARR 6 Oct; Collins L SCHE 13 Nov; AR 21 Nov; Copake L COLU 30 Nov.

**Rock Pigeon:** max 200 Overlook P, Cohoes ALBA 6 Nov.

**Mourning Dove:** max 70 VFNHP 13 Nov.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** max 2 Ghent COLU 14 Oct; last Ghent COLU 22 Oct.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** last Ghent COLU 29 Sep.

**Common Nighthawk:** max 57 Guilderland ALBA 7 Sep; last Coeymans ALBA 25 Sep.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** last Chestertown WARR 11 Sep.

**Chimney Swift:** max 55 Germantown COLU 17 Sep; last 3 Peebles I SP SARA 23 Sep.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last Glen MONT 1 Oct.

**Virginia Rail:** last Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 3 Oct.

**Sora:** last Clemons Marsh WASH 3 Oct.

**Common Gallinule:** last Wagers Pd SARA 10 Oct.

**American Coot:** max 5 BCR 7 Nov; last VFNHP 21 Nov.

**Black-bellied Plover:** CF 29-30 Sep.

**Killdeer:** max 70 Kinderhook COLU 8 Sep; last 2 Stanton Pd ALBA 14 Nov.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 6 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 19 Sep.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** Germantown COLU 9 Sep.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Clemons Marsh WASH 26 Sep; Selkirk ALBA 17 Oct.

**Sanderling:** 2 Gull I WARR 8 Sep; Pine L FULT 6 Sep; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 13 Sep.

**Dunlin:** Clemons Marsh WASH 5 Oct; Cobleskill Res SCHO 2 Nov.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 12 Sep.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 6 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 15 Sep.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 4 Stillwater Riverfront P SARA 2 Sep; CF 9 Sep.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 7 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 15 Sep.

**American Woodcock:** last Jewett GREE 8 Nov.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 8 Clemons Marsh WASH 26 Sep; last SNHP 8 Nov.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 3 Lock 4 State Canal PRENS 1 Sep; last mult loc 13 Oct.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 6 Stillwater Riverfront P SARA 2 Sep; last FR 13 Oct.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 14 Clemons Marsh WASH 30 Sep; last 3 Clemons Marsh WASH 5 Oct.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 6 Clemons Marsh WASH 12 Oct; last 2 Wrights Loop SARA 10 Nov.

**RAZORBILL:** Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Nov; Clemons Marsh WASH 18 Nov, *NYSARC, intro.*

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 4 Pebbles I SP SARA 4 Nov; last Saratoga L SARA 23 Nov.

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 750 CF 3 Sep.

**Herring Gull:** max 50 Yankee Hill Lock MONT 7 Nov; 50 Waterford SARA 9 Nov; 50 Crescent Power Plant ALBA 29 Nov.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** first Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 13 Nov.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 25 Waterford SARA 9 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** max 5 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 6 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 4 Oct.

**Common Tern:** Germantown COLU 17 Sep.

**Red-throated Loon:** TR 3-14 Nov; Gilboa Upp Res SCHO 4 Nov; Broadalbin Boat Launch FULT 5-7 Nov; Round L SARA 6 Nov; Mayfield FULT 14 Nov; Mechanicville SARA 27 Nov.

**Common Loon:** max 18 TR 25 Oct.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 189 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 17 Oct.

**Least Bittern:** VFNHP 1 Sep; Putnam WASH 4 Sep.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 18 Germantown COLU 22 Sep.

**Great Egret:** max 15 Hudson COLU 29 Sep; last Stockport Flats COLU 11 Nov.

**Little Blue Heron:** ad Canajoharie MONT 18 Sep.

**Cattle Egret:** max 2 Ancram COLU 18 Oct; singletons Athens GREE 6-9 Nov; TR 20 Nov.

**Green Heron:** max 13 VFNHP 6 Sep; last Saratoga L SARA 15 Oct.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 2 VFNHP 4 Sep; 2 Carters Pd WASH 5 Sep; Ancram COLU 3 Sep; Kingsbury WASH 18 Sep.

**Black Vulture:** max 39 Cobleskill SCHO 15 Sep; Copake COLU 26 Nov.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 80 Sprakers MONT 8 Oct; Hoosick Falls RENS 18 Oct.

**Osprey:** max 5 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 13 Sep.

**Golden Eagle:** first Gloversville FULT 5 Nov.

**Northern Harrier:** max 8 FtEG 24 Nov.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 6 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 16 Sep.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 7 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 14 Sep.

**Northern Goshawk:** Kinderhook COLU 21 Nov; Middleburgh SCHO 16 Oct.

**Bald Eagle:** max 16 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 13 Sep.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** BCM 1 Sep, *NYSARC*, *intro*.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 2 mult loc.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 1000 FR 17 Sep.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 26 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 13 Sep.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** first Oppenheim FULT 25 Nov.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** max 2 Colonie ALBA 12 Oct.

**Great Horned Owl:** max 3 Colonie ALBA 20 Nov.

**Snowy Owl:** FtEG 30 Nov.

**Barred Owl:** max 4 Galway L SARA 11 Oct.

**Short-eared Owl:** max 10 FtEG 30 Nov.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Bethlehem ALBA 30 Oct; Canaan COLU 21 Nov.

**Belted Kingfisher:** max 4 mult loc.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 8 VFNHP 24 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 5 E Hoosick RENS 18 Sep.

**Downy Woodpecker:** max 9 mult loc.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 6 Hague WARR 5 Sep; Niskayuna RR Sta SCHE 28 Oct.

**Northern Flicker:** max 12 FR 16 Sep.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 4 mult loc.

**American Kestrel:** max 12 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 14 Sep.

**Merlin:** max 5 Troy RENS 18 Sep.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 3 Vromans Nose SCHO 12 Oct.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** last FR 16 Sep.

**Eastern Kingbird:** last Rotterdam SCHE 15 Sep.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 29 Sep.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 11 Drowned Lands Cons Area COLU 7 Sep; last Kingsbury WASH 13 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last Middleburgh SCHO 1 Oct.

**Alder Flycatcher:** no confirmed reports.

**Willow Flycatcher:** no confirmed reports.

**Least Flycatcher:** last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 1 Oct.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 12 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 1 Oct.

**WHITE-EYED VIREO (R8):** 2 Colonie Mohawk River P ALBA 24 Oct, *intro*.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last Ft Ann WASH 25 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 11 Peebles I SP SARA 20 Sep; last Clemons WASH 24 Oct.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** last Nassau L RENS 7 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** last Fulton SCHO 25 Sep.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 23 Peebles I SP SARA 20 Sep; last Glenville SCHE 14 Oct.

**Northern Shrike:** arr Putnam WASH 18 Nov.

**Blue Jay:** max 99 Nutton Hooke COLU 28 Sep.

**American Crow:** max 5000 Troy RENS 26 Nov.

**Fish Crow:** max 50 Green I ALBA 29 Nov.

**Common Raven:** max 24 Thacher P Hawk Watch ALBA 17 Sep.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 64 Queensbury WARR 5 Oct.

**Tufted Titmouse:** max 27 Saratoga Springs SARA 9 Nov.

**Horned Lark:** max 264 Livingston Colu 23 Nov.

**Bank Swallow:** max 50 CF 7 Sep; last Kinderhook COLU 24 Sep.

**Tree Swallow:** max 250 Carlisle SCHO 20 Sep; last SNHP 20 Oct.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** last 20 VFNHP 19 Sep.

**Barn Swallow:** max 35 Appleby Rd ALBA 5 Sep; last Nassau L RENS 2 Oct.

**Cliff Swallow:** VFNHP 4 Sep; 2 Clemons Marsh WASH 12 Sep.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr APBP 2 Sep; max 19 SNHP 15 Oct.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 27 Moreau L SP SARA 28 Sep.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 160 Kinderhook COLU 28 Nov.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 12 mult loc.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 17 Peebles I  
SP SARA 20 Sep.

**Brown Creeper:** max 8 Queensbury WARR 5  
Oct.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last Guilderland  
ALBA 12 Sep.

**House Wren:** max 7 Nassau L RENS 2 Sep;  
last Collins L SCHE 21 Oct.

**Winter Wren:** max 7 Halfmoon SARA 28  
Nov.

**Marsh Wren:** last 2 VFNHP 3 Nov.

**Carolina Wren:** max 12 Normanskill Farm  
ALBA 11 Nov.

**Gray Catbird:** max 38 FR 11 Sep.

**Brown Thrasher:** last The Crossings, Colonie  
ALBA 18 Oct.

**Northern Mockingbird:** max 8 Kinderhook  
COLU 24 Sep.

**European Starling:** max 1500 Stanton Pd  
ALBA 11 Nov.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 40 SNHP 21 Nov.

**Veery:** last Garnsey P SARA 29 Sep.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Cooper's Pd RENS  
28-29 Sep, *NFC*.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 40 Livingston  
COLU 20 Sep, *NFC*.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 11 SNHP 12 Oct.

**Wood Thrush:** max 4 Henry Hudson P ALBA  
2 Sep; last Elka P GREE 14 Nov, very late.

**American Robin:** max 5984 Ft Ann WASH  
31 Oct, flybys counted over two-hour period,  
migrants heading SW.

**House Sparrow:** max 60 Albany ALBA 30  
Nov.

**American Pipit:** max 60 Clemons Marsh 12  
Oct.

**Evening Grosbeak:** BMB 3 Sep; Jewett  
GREE 1 Oct; SNHP 21 Nov; Nassau L RENS  
29 Nov.

**House Finch:** max 72 Colonie Mohawk River  
P ALBA 25 Oct.

**Purple Finch:** max 10 SNHP 22 Oct.

**Common Redpoll:** max 15 Clemons WASH  
22 Nov.

**Red Crossbill:** max 10 Rensselaerville SF  
ALBA 14 Nov.

**Pine Siskin:** max 12 Mountaintop Arboretum  
GREE 21 Nov.

**American Goldfinch:** max 60 Delmar ALBA  
23 Oct.

**Snow Bunting:** arr CCGP 22 Oct; max 15  
Warrensburg WARR 16 Nov.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Valatie COLU 8 Sep,  
only report.

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 40 APBP 6 Sep.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** The Crossings,  
Colonie ALBA 18 Oct, 14 Nov.

**Field Sparrow:** max 13 Bob & Betty  
Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Sep.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr Bozenkill Pres ALBA 20  
Oct; max 4 APBP 30 Oct.

**American Tree Sparrow:** arr BMB 29 Oct;  
max 13 M-H Bike-Hike Trail SCHE 19 Nov.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 55 Nassau L COLU 6  
Nov.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** max 10 Glen  
MONT 5 Oct.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 175 Nassau L  
RENS 8 Oct.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 3 CCGP 18 Oct;  
Appleby Rd ALBA 24 Oct.

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 24 Green Acres  
Farm COLU 5 Oct.

**Song Sparrow:** max 61 Kingsbury WASH 1  
Oct.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Bob & Betty  
Cummings Mem P WASH 9 Sep; max 6 Green  
Acres Farm COLU 5 Oct.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 25 BCM 11 Oct; last  
VFNHP 23 Oct.

**Eastern Towhee:** max 12 SNHP 11 Sep; last  
M-H Bike-Hike Trail Alba 10 Nov.

**YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (R8):** Ghent  
COLU 8 Oct.

**Bobolink:** max 15 Ghent COLU 2 Sep; last  
Ghent COLU 3 Oct.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 12 FtEG 9 Oct.

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 4 APBP 6 Sep; last FR  
25 Sep.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 750 Bowmaker  
Pd SCHO 10 Oct.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 300 Fonda  
MONT 28 Nov.

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 109 VFNHP 31 Oct.

**Common Grackle:** max 4500 Wilton Wildlife  
Pres SARA 22 Nov.

**Ovenbird:** last Hillsdale COLU 11 Oct.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** FR 23 Sep, only report, very late.

**Northern Waterthrush:** VFNHP 9 Oct, late.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** last Glen MONT 10 Sep.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** last Bethlehem ALBA 11 Oct.

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 6 Guilderland ALBA 17 Sep; 6 Garnsey P SARA 29 Sep; FR 9 Oct; last Niverville COLU 28 Oct.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr SNHP 18 Sep; last Stuyvesant COLU 8 Oct.

**Nashville Warbler:** max 10 VFNHP 3 Oct; last M-H Bike-Hike Trail, Colonie ALBA 17 Oct.

**Connecticut Warbler:** Elka P GREE 11 Sep; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 22 Sep; Cocksackie GREE 2 Oct; Queensbury WARR 5 Oct.

**Mourning Warbler:** last New Baltimore GREE 16 Oct, late.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 10 FR 11 Sep; last Normanskill Farm ALBA 31 Oct.

**American Redstart:** last Troy RENS 3 Nov, very late.

**Cape May Warbler:** max 6 VFNHP 19 Sep; last Washington P ALBA 11 Oct; Collins L SCHE 11 Oct.

**Northern Parula:** max 6 APBP 2 Sep; last Nassau L RENS 13 Oct.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 8 Hague WARR 23 Sep; last APBP 15 Oct.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 5 mult loc; last VFNHP 6 Oct; Peebles I SP SARA 6 Oct.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 5 APBP 2 Sep; last Glens Falls WARR 5 Oct.

**Yellow Warbler:** last Normanskill Farm ALBA 2 Oct.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** last Hoosick RENS 6 Oct.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr Ballston SARA 4 Sep; max 12 mult loc; last Glens Falls WARR 23 Oct.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** last Melrose RENS 21 Oct.

**Palm Warbler:** max 11 Copake COLU 21 Sep; last CCGP 25 Oct.

**Pine Warbler:** last Ft Ann WASH 7 Nov, late.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 150 VFNHP 3 Oct.

**Prairie Warbler:** last 2 APBP 25 Sep.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 15 Amy's P WARR 4 Sep; last SNHP 15 Oct.

**Canada Warbler:** last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Sep.

**Wilson's Warbler:** last Schaghticoke RENS 18 Oct, late.

**Scarlet Tanager:** last Delmar ALBA 28 Nov, very late.

**Northern Cardinal:** max 30 Glens Falls WARR 2 Sep.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 7 Dyken Pd RENS 14 Sep; last Nassau L RENS 11 Oct.

**Indigo Bunting:** last APBP 11 Oct.

**DICKCISSEL (R8):** Normanskill Farm ALBA 2-4 Oct; Bender Melon Farm ALBA 7 Oct, *intro*.



## REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

**John H. Haas**

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The fall season began with heavy rain on 1-2 September as the result of the then Tropical Storm *Ida*. The storm wreaked havoc on much of the area. The month continued to be wet and though the National Weather Station at Poughkeepsie reported only 4.5" rain, this was not characteristic for most of the Region. In fact, there were 19 days of rain in September and much of the Region was under flash flood warnings for several days. This all resulted in much higher-than-normal water levels affecting birds significantly. For example, flooded farm fields in the Black Dirt Region attracted an abundance of shorebirds, while high water at the Rondout Reservoir and Morningside Park pushed out dabbling ducks and waders.

There was a high temperature of 87° on 15 September and a low of 44° on 29 with an average of 66°, 2.1° above normal. Temperature varied considerably throughout the Region, higher elevations having low temperatures in the thirties. There was a high of 79° on 15 October and a low of 34° on 29 October with an average of 58.2° resulting in an average 6° above normal. Poughkeepsie had a total of 5.21" of rain for the month, 1.48" above normal, but once again this was not consistent throughout the Region. On 25 October the area was hit by a nor'easter. As much as five to six inches of rain fell in a two-day period, causing extensive flooding throughout much of the Region. Poughkeepsie gave a high of 69° on 9 November and a low of 18° on 24 November, an average of 40.2°, 1.3° below normal. There was a total of 3.27" of precipitation in November, 1.82" below normal. Once again temperature and precipitation varied greatly throughout the Region.

The first two reports of Cackling Geese this season occurred on 29-30 October in Ulster and Dutchess Counties. The first Greater White-fronted Goose of the fall came on 31 October at Stissing Pond in Dutchess County; the bird moved among several local ponds well into November. Many more reports of each would follow. On 26 November Anne Swaim found a **Pink-footed Goose** on the grass on Wappingers Lake in Dutchess County.

Sandhill Cranes were reported in the Orange County Black Dirt Region throughout the period, the family trio continuing well into November.

American Golden-Plovers had a much better showing in the Orange County Black Dirt Region than in recent years. A high of 76 were noted and birds were present much of the month of September. On 17 October the author spotted a Long-Billed Dowitcher at Morningside Park in Sullivan County. This was only the third record of this species for the county, all at this location. The bird remained only the day, but the following day one was discovered at the Camel

Farm in Orange County. On 1 November Jeanne Cimorelli found two Long-billed Dowitchers at that location; at least one remaining several days.

Sean Camillieri was excited to see a Parasitic Jaeger attacking gulls at Edith G. Read Nature Center on 30 October. A few fortunate people got to see the bird before it departed. The first Iceland Gull of the season was spotted by Kyle Bardwell at Dockside Park in Putnam County on 9 November, soon followed by several more. On 12 November the author picked a juvenile Lesser Black-backed Gull out of the large flock of gulls at Sullivan County Community College. Rare in the Region away from the Hudson River, this was the first in the county in many years. The accommodating bird remained for 10 days and was one of several reported in the Region.

On 7 September Tom Burke and Gail Benson photographed a **Great White Heron** at Marshlands Conservancy. This subspecies of the Great Blue Heron is extremely rare in the northeast, normally found in the southeast, especially Florida. This is likely the same bird that was reported by Phil Jeffries at the same location in August. The bird continued into October. On 18 October Jeanne Cimorelli spotted a **White Ibis** among the goose flock at the Camel Farm in Orange County. The bird remained throughout the day and was seen by many local birders. On 28 October, Ronnie DiLorenzo and Bruce Nott photographed **15** Cattle Egrets in a field on the Newburgh Waterfront. This was a record high number for Orange County and the Region. Unfortunately, the birds soon took off heading south. This was the first of many reports this season.

On 4 September Richard Aracil identified a **Swainson's Hawk** flying over the Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch. He was able to photograph this rare visitor to the area before it continued westward.

On 29 October the author spotted the first Lapland Longspur of the season on the Neversink Dam in Sullivan County. This was the earliest record to date of this species in the county. The bird remained for two days for all those who sought it out. It was a good fall season for Vesper Sparrow around the Region; a nice incursion occurred on 24 October with 26 birds reported that day. Kyle Bardwell located a Nelson's Sparrow at Croton Point Park on 24 September. Two birds were ultimately seen and continued through 7 October. On 9 October, the author flushed a Nelson's Sparrow on the Nature Trail at the Bashakill, a first record for Sullivan County. There were several more reports of Nelson's Sparrow around the Region making it a particularly productive season for them. Mark Adam found a **LeConte's Sparrow** at Croton Point Park on 6 November. After a few days' absence it was rediscovered and seen and photographed by many observers through 10 November. On 23 September Steve Rappaport spotted a Blue Grosbeak at Croton Point Park where it was seen by a lucky few before disappearing. Charlie Roberto found another on 28 September that departed all too quickly, and yet a third was found there on 6 October. Dickcissels were seen all around the Region throughout the period.



### CHESTNUT RIDGE HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	10/19	4	10/22	59
Turkey Vulture	9/21	265	10/19	3798
Osprey	8/25	46	9/11	364
Golden Eagle	10/21	8	4 Nov	15
No. Harrier	8/27	22	9/20	201
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/26	217	10/19	2759
Cooper's Hawk	8/25	45	10/8	616
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	9/2	17	9/19	265
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/21	39	10/24	555
Broad-winged Hawk	8/25	781	9/19	2501
Swainson's Hawk	9/4	1	9/4	1
Red-tailed Hawk	9/11	5	10/24	78
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	8/25	63	9/19	468
Merlin	8/30	9	9/13	96
Peregrine Falcon	8/28	6	10/8	27
Unidentified				114
Total inc unidentified				11,917

### HOOK MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	10/2	35	10/22	180
Turkey Vulture	8/25	281	10/23	1330
Osprey	8/20	27	9/11	383
Golden Eagle	10/2	7	11/3	14
No. Harrier	9/4	12	9/20	137
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/31	182	10/1	1800
Cooper's Hawk	8/20	50	10/8	350
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	8/20	11	10/11	209
Red-shouldered Hawk	8/31	38	11/6	337
Broad-winged Hawk	8/20	335	9/14	1069
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	9/4	13	10/27	104
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	8/25	36	9/14	299
Merlin	9/5	9	10/8	78
Peregrine Falcon	9/10	3	10/17	37
Unidentified				16
Total inc unidentified				6343

## MOUNT PETER HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	9/21	12	10/19	77
Turkey Vulture	9/20	253	10/23	1584
Osprey	9/2	22	9/12	122
Golden Eagle	10/19	1	10/19	4
No. Harrier	9/10	4	10/16	46
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/10	60	10/14	871
Cooper's Hawk	9/19	13	10/19	114
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	9/2	11	9/19	140
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/3	23	10/27	119
Broad-winged Hawk	9/2	3888	9/19	6769
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	9/2	13	11/1	113
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	9/3	30	9/26	125
Merlin	9/2	2	9/8	8
Peregrine Falcon	9/26	2	10/16	11
Unidentified				17
<b>Total inc unidentified</b>				<b>10,120</b>

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AP** – Apollo Plaza, SULL; **AR** – Ashokan Res, ULST; **BCF** – Blue Chip Farm, ULST; **BFAS** – Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary, DUTC; **BMSP** – Bear Mountain SP, ROCK; **BP** – Browns Pd, ORAN; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **CMACS** – Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, PUTN; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **DHCLP** – D and H Canal Linear P, SULL; **DR** – Doodletown Rd, ROCK; **DRT** – Dutchess Rail Trail, DUTC; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **EMLH** – Esopus Meadows Light House, ULST; **FPNC** – Forsythe P and Nature Center, ULST; **GL** – Glenmere L, ORAN; **GMP** – Glasco Mini P, ULST; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **HS** – Harcourt Sanctuary, ULST; **HVRT** – Harlem Valley Rail Trail, DUTC; **HWCV** – Hillside Woods and Children’s Village, WEST; **II** – Iona I, ROCK; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **KP** – Kingston Pt, ULST; **LGC** – Laurel Grove Cemetery, ORAN; **LM** – Liberty Marsh, ORAN; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Pres, WEST; **LR** – Larchmont Res, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MF** – Muscoot Farm, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **MPHW** – Mount Peter Hawk Watch, ORAN; **MRCC** – Mariondale Retreat and Conference Center, WEST; **NCR** – New Croton Res, WEST; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OINP** – Oscawana I Nature Pres, WEST; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RL** – Rhinecliff Landing, DUTC; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RNC** – Rye Nature Center, WEST; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Road, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg Spit, ULST; **SSF** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **SCCC** – Sullivan County Community College, SULL; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **THMUA** – Taconic-Hereford Multiple Use Area, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WPFP** – West Point Foundry Pres, PUTN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill R NWR, ORAN.

**Snow Goose:** 27 Mills-Norrie SP DUTC 1 Nov (BM, mob); 65 CPP 11 Nov (ME); 56 Dockside P PUTN 28 Nov (KB, SC); 75 Ulster P ULST 28 Nov (DT).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Stissing Pd DUTC 31 Oct-8 Nov (PSt, mob); Bowman Ave Pd Rye WEST 8-30 Nov (GBen, mob); WRNWR 21 Nov (LS, JCim).

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE:** Wappingers L DUTC 26-27 Nov (AS, mob).

**Brant:** 205 CPP 28 Sep (CR); EGR 8 Nov (GBen, TB); 1148 Sand Dock Rd Trail DUTC 19 Oct (CC); 82 Long Dock P DUTC 11 Nov (KB); 106 HWCV 3 Nov (JAm).

**Cackling Goose:** Pine Plains DUTC 29 Oct (JAs); Hurley Mt Rd ULST 30 Oct (PSh); max 5 Camel Farm ORAN 13-21 Nov (JCim, mob).

**Tundra Swan:** NR 21 Nov (JH, mob).

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 20 GV 3 Sep-3 Oct (PSh, DT); 45 WRNWR 12 Sep (AS, mob); max 45 BSWMA 5-29 Sep (JH, SB).

**Canvasback:** 2 PP 7 Nov (AW); MRCC 11 Nov (KL).

**Redhead:** OMRLMSP 7 Nov (KF, CF).

**Ring-necked Duck:** 11 Mud Pd WEST 2 Oct (TA); 20 BSWMA 9 Nov (JH, SB); 48 Kenozia L ULST 13 Nov (DO); 16 Beaver Dam L ORAN 20 Nov (JCim).

**Surf Scoter:** Dockside P 27 Oct (CR, KB); Rhinecliff Landing P DUTC 27 Oct (CP); 4 Dobbs Ferry WEST 3 Nov (JAm); max 2 EGR 27-29 Oct (SC).

**White-winged Scoter:** 9 CPP 26 Oct (TW); 20 Dobbs Ferry 27 Oct (JAm); NW 27 Oct (BN); 6 Mill-Norrie SP DUTC 1 Nov (BM, KF).

**Black Scoter:** 5 AR 28 Oct (RM); NW 29 Oct-5 Nov (BN mob); NR 4 Nov (JH, mob); 3 Yankee L SULL 4 Nov (JH); KL 15 Nov (JH).

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 2 EGR 30 Oct-30 Nov (SC, mob); max 28 NR 4 Nov (JH, mob); Toronto Res SULL 5 Nov (SB).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 48 EGR 24 Oct-30 Nov (GBen, mob); 2 Verplanck WEST 17 Nov (SR); Swan L SULL 21-22 Nov (SG, mob).

**Ruddy Duck:** max 11 Swan L 18-25 Oct (JH, SG, mob); max 15 KL 18-19 Oct (JH, mob); max 50 Middletown Res ORAN 30 Sep-25 Oct (KMi, DB); max 52 WL 16-25 Oct (JCim, mob); max 140 Sylvan L DUTC 16-26 Oct (CP, DS); max).

**Horned Grebe:** max 8 AR 30 Oct-9 Nov (WT, RM); Kensico Res WEST 2 Nov (KS).

**Red-necked Grebe:** KL 20 Oct (JH, KMi); 2 AR 23 Oct (LS); Swan L 5-9 Nov (SG, mob).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Kendridge Farm ORAN 7 Sep (BN); LR 11 Sep (EM); BSWMA 12 Sep (JH, GL); Georges L P WEST 11 Sep (GBer); Hurley Mt Rd 27 Oct (WY).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** Kakiat County P ROCK 2 Sep (ML); Twin Lakes P WEST 4 Sep (SO); HWCV 7 Sep (JAm); Dennings Pt DUTC 17 Sep (AL); BSWMA 27 Sep (SB, AK); BSWMA 10 Oct (JH).

**Common Nighthawk:** max 18 MC 7-20 Sep (GBen, mob); Kingston ULST 24 Sep (DS); 2 Kingston 7 Oct (DW).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** MC 7-11 Sep (GBen, SR, SC).

**Chimney Swift:** 40 Mills-Norrie SP 9 Sep (SJ); 12 BSWMA 11 Sep (SJ, EM, mob); max 26 Dennings Pt 11 Sep (DvZ, AL).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** Minnewaska SP ULST 2 Oct (CK); MC 13 Oct (GBen, TB).

**Clapper Rail:** max 5 MC 2 Sep -1 Nov (GBen, mob).

**Virginia Rail:** GV 11 Sep (PSh); CPP 24 Sep (JAm); BSWMA 25 Sep (JH, mob); CPP 2 Nov (SC, mob).

**Sora:** CPP 23 Sep-1 Nov (CR, mob).

**Common Gallinule:** max 4 BSWMA 1-14 Sep (SB, JH); max 3 Orange Heritage Trail ORAN 3-9 Sep (KA); max 6 WRNWR 3 Sep (JP); Warwick ORAN 25 Oct (JS); 3 SHSR 25 Oct (JCim); 2 BSWMA 28 Oct (JH); GV 29 Oct (RM).

**American Coot:** max 5 Sylvan L 21-26 Oct (CP, DS); 3 SHSR 25 Oct (JCim).

**Sandhill Crane:** 3 OCBDR 1 Sep-4 Nov (BN, mob); Heritage Trail ORAN 28 Oct (KA); 3 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch WEST 6 Nov (RA); approx. 145 flying se over MC, vocalizing, 23 Nov (M. Fuirst).

**American Oystercatcher:** 3 Five Islands P WEST 29 Sep (RW).

**Black-bellied Plover:** max 4 OCBDR 2-13 Sep (BN, mob).

**American Golden-Plover:** OCBDR 4 Sep (MZ, mob); 4 Skinners Lane ORAN 12 Sep (AS, TS); max 65 Skinners Lane 13-16 Sep (MZ, LS); Hillview Res WEST 6 Oct (SC).

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 18 OCBDR 2-13 Sep (BT, mob); CPP 2-3 Sep (AS, mob); 8 PP 3 Sep (KR); max 14 EGR 2-12 Sep (KB, GBen); max 5 MC 1-11 Sep (TW, mob).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** Rye Town P WEST 6 Sep (KB).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** MC 15 Sep (GBen, TB).  
**Sanderling:** OCBDR 6 Sep (BN, BT); 2 PP 7 Sep (CW); 4 PP 16 Sep (LP, DM).  
**Dunlin:** max 5 MC 5-18 Oct (SC, mob); 3 GV 2-3 Oct (PSh, RM); 82 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 2 Nov (RA); PP 3 Nov (AW); MP 8 Nov (JH, mob).  
**Purple Sandpiper:** max 12 Rye Town P 16-30 Nov (TB, mob).  
**Baird's Sandpiper:** 3 AP 1 Sep (JH); max 4 OCBDR 2-13 Sep (BN, MZ, mob).  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** max 4 OCBDR 4-12 Sep (MZ, mob).  
**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** OCBDR 5 Sep (MZ); max 2 OCBDR 12-13 Sep (LS, MZ).  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** MP 2 Sep (JH); max 14 OCBDR 2-25 Sep (BN, mob); max 2 GV 14-24 Sep (PSh, RM); max 3 SCCC 16- 25 Sep (JH, PD).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 2 CPP 1 Sep (SR); max 12 MC 1-6 Sep (SC, mob); 5 SCCC 2 Sep (JH); max 10 OCBDR 2-6 Sep (BN, mob); 4 MC 9 Oct (KMcG, GBer).  
**Western Sandpiper:** MC 15 Sep (GBen, TB).  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** max 2 MC 1-6 Sep (SC, SR).  
**Long-billed Dowitcher:** MP 17 Oct (JH, mob); Camel Farm 18-22 Oct (JCim, mob), max 2 Camel Farm 1-11 Nov (JCim), *intro*.  
**American Woodcock:** Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 19 Nov (RK); Millbrook DUTC 19-20 Nov (JAs).  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** Dobbs Ferry 21 Oct (JAm); CPP 23 Oct (KB, LT).  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** Barrett Pd PUTN 24 Oct (SC).  
**Willet:** MC 6-16 Sep (SR, KB).  
**Parasitic Jaeger:** 30 Oct (SC, mob), *intro*.  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** EGR 1 Sep (GBen); 5 NR 13 Nov (JH), many reports between.  
**Laughing Gull:** max 45 Red Bridge Area WEST 2-20 Sep (FG); max 45 EGR 1 Sep-22 Nov (GBen, mob); max 153 MC 1 Sep-11 Nov (GBen, mob); max 3 PP 9 Sep (AW, LP); Dobbs Ferry 11 Sep (JAm); max 3 Hastings Meadowlands & Rowley's Bridge Trail WEST 5-6 Sep (JAm, PM); PP 25 Sep (LP); 2 NW 26 Oct (BN, JCim); PP 27 Oct (AW); 2 EGR 27 Nov (GBen).  
**Iceland Gull:** Dockside P 9 Nov (KB, CR); Long Dock P 16 Nov (KB, DvZ); Beacon Waterfront DUTC 17 Nov (KB); NW 28 Nov (YH, BN), *intro*.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Long Dock P 31 Oct (KB, mob); Beacon Waterfront 2-6 Nov CP, mob); SCCC 12-21 Nov (JH, mob); NW 26-30 Nov (JC, mob), *intro*.  
**Caspian Tern:** 2 MacEachron Waterfront P WEST 2 Sep (PM); 3 PP 4 Sep (LP); 2 PP 21 Sep (SC, KR); 2 EGR 28 Sep (GBen, TB); 2 CPP 1 Oct (LG); Dobbs Ferry 1 Oct (JAm); PP 18-22 Oct (AW, KR).  
**Common Tern:** max 6 EGR 9-10 Sep (GBen).  
**Forster's Tern:** MC 1-7 Sep (SC, JM); PP 21-24 Sep (KR, CW, AW); Dobbs Ferry 8 Sep (JAm).  
**Red-throated Loon:** PP 26 Oct (AW); max 18 EGR 30 Oct-16 Nov (SC).  
**Northern Gannet:** max 12 EGR 13-22 Nov (SR, mob); Long Dock P 16 Nov (DvZ, KB).  
**Great Cormorant:** max 2 NCR 18-26 Oct (KL, CR); max 5 EGR 17 Oct -2 Nov (GBen, TB).  
**American Bittern:** Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 24 Sep (RA); 2 WRNWR 7 Oct (MZ); EGR 10 Oct (CM); WRNWR 22 Oct (SK, SR).  
**Least Bittern:** Siscowit Res WEST 11 Oct (MMa).  
**Great Blue Heron** (Great White): MC 7 Sep, 3-25 Oct (GBen, TB), *intro*.  
**Great Egret:** max 25 BSWMA 1-29 Sep (JH, mob); max 20 WRNWR 1 Sep-3 Oct (KK, CA, mob); max 13 Dennings Pt 3 Sep -2 Oct (AL, mob); Madam Brett P DUTC 11 Nov (DK), widespread.  
**Snowy Egret:** max 7 MC 1 Sep-9 Oct (SC, mob); max 4 EGR 1 Sep-17 Oct (GBer, mob).  
**Little Blue Heron:** Kingston Res #1 3 Sep (PSh).  
**Cattle Egret:** 15 NW 28 Oct (BN, RDi); Lackawaxen SULL 31 Oct (PShreiner); BSWMA 1 Nov (EK); Gibson Hill Rd 2-4 Nov (JS); CPP 2-3 Nov (JM, AS, JW, mob); OCBDR 7 Nov (LS); Clarkstown Landfill ROCK 7, 11 Nov (AW, DC), *intro*.  
**Green Heron:** RSP 16 Oct (MC); Siscowit Res 25 Oct (LB); Mud Pd Pound Ridge WEST 3 Nov (TA).  
**Black-crowned Night-heron:** max 9 EGR 1 Sep-20 Oct (GBen, KMcG); Dennings Pt 29 Sep (CK); PP 23 Oct (DM).  
**Yellow-crowned Night-heron:** LR 4 Oct (KKe); Five Islands P 18-29 Sep (RW).

**WHITE IBIS:** Camel Farm 18 Oct (JCim, mob), *intro*.

**Glossy Ibis:** II 2 Sep (AW, AV).

**Osprey:** Washington L ORAN 2-4 Nov (BN); CPP 1-4 Nov (LT, JM); Mahopac PUTN 5 Nov (AB); See also hawkwatch charts above.

**Golden Eagle:** max 8 I 84 Overlook ORAN 19 Oct-4 Nov (AA, LA); Ossining WEST 22 Oct (KB); Van Norstrand Rd ULST 25 Oct (DK); BSWMA 3 Nov (JH); 2 Waterbury Hill Rd DUTC 19 Nov (BB); See also hawkwatch charts above.

**Bald Eagle to Red-shouldered Hawk:** See hawkwatch charts above.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** See hawkwatch charts above.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** See hawkwatch charts above

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** Chestnut Ridge Hawk Watch 4 Sep (RA), *intro*.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** WRNWR 31 Oct-2 Nov (KMi, mob); SGNWR 6 Nov (KMcD, SL); North Clove Rd DUTC 19-27 Nov (BB, mob).

**Snowy Owl:** Flat Rock I WEST 21 Nov (MS).

**Short-eared Owl:** Warwick 13 Oct (JS); max 3 SGNWR 3-14 Nov (JB, mob).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** max 10 Youngsville Banding Station SULL 21 Oct (KMi, SB); Brace Mt DUTC 28 Oct (JE); Sickler Rd ULST 1 Nov (PSh); max 6 Youngsville Banding Station 2 Nov (JH, SG).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** RSP 4 Sep-3 Nov (AS, mob); Tuxedo ORAN 5-20 Nov (RA); max 6 Van Norstrand Rd 3 Sep-28 Oct (RDi, mob); max 3 Mills-Norrie SP 9 Sep-11 Nov (SJ, mob).

**American Kestrel and Merlin:** See hawkwatch charts above.

**Peregrine Falcon:** Widespread reports. See hawkwatch charts above.

**Eastern Kingbird:** Rockefeller Lane DUTC 18 Sep (CC); Garrison PUTN 9 Oct (TD).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Depot Hill DUTC 4 Sep (DK, CP); MC 5 Sep (CK); Cliffdale Farm WEST 8 Sep (LO); CFSP 13 Sep (KB).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** max 2 BSWMA 3-29 Sep (SB, mob); Prun Sanctuary PUTN 5 Sep (AS); HWCV 7 Sep (JAM).

**Least Flycatcher:** Stony Kill Farm EEC DUTC 3 Oct (BN); Wappingers Falls DUTC 7 Oct (DvZ).

**White-eyed Vireo:** West Point ORAN 1 Oct (BT); 2 Pawling DUTC 2 Oct (CC).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** RSP 7-14 Sep (AS, GBer); max 2 BSWMA 11-19 Sep (JH, mob); max 2 RLSP 10-13 Aug (CC, AW); CFSP 12-13 Sep (KB, SC); WPFP 13 Sep (SC, CR); Minnewaska SP 14 Sep (SB, NM).

**Warbling Vireo:** BSWMA 20 Sep (JH); RLSP 20 Sep (CW); WRNWR 20-21 Sep (JCim); Dennings Pt SP 20 Sep (AL); OCBDR 20 Sep (LS); Overlook P DUTC 21 Sep (CC); 2 Montgomery Place Historic Site DUTC (CF, KF).

**Northern Shrike:** WL 25 Oct (KA); Tanzman Rd SULL 2 Nov (SSu) OMRLMSP 5-11 Nov (SJ, mob); SGNWR 11 Nov (RDi).

**Horned Lark:** NR 30 Oct (JH, PD).

**Tree Swallow:** max 226 BSWMA 1-26 Sep (JH, mob); Posquiello Creekside Rd 12 Nov (PSh).

**Sedge Wren:** Hurley Mt Rd ULST 25 Sep (MR, mob); CPP 13 Oct (AS, mob).

**Marsh Wren:** max 3 MC 1 Sep-9 Oct (SC, GBen, mob); max 3 GV 3-18 Sep (PSh, RM); max 2 CPP 23 Sep-9 Oct (AS, mob); max 2 BSWMA 24 Sep-9 Oct (JH, SB); 2 William Clough Pres PUTN 2 Oct (SC, KB).

**Veery:** Stonecrop Gardens PUTN 3 Oct (JT).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** RSP 14 Sep (LT); Briarpatch WEST 19 Sep (EG); Brinton Brook Sanctuary WEST 21 Sep (EB); Sunset Hill Rd PUTN 23 Sep (PG); max 2 BSWMA 1-3 Oct (JH, mob).

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 4 MC 4-12 Sep (SC, mob); max 6 BSWMA 7-13 Sep (JH, mob), widespread.

**Wood Thrush:** max 2 Sand Dock Rd Trail 1-6 Oct (CC); Ossining WEST 6 Oct (SK); Kendridge Farm ORAN 9 Oct (DB).

**American Pipit:** max 4 BSWMA 23 Sep (JH, mob); max 270 OCBDR 30 Sep-24 Oct (MZ, mob); max 50 NR 30-31 Oct (JH, RDa).

**Evening Grosbeak:** Poughquag DUTC 29 Oct (MMA); 2 Lincolnale WEST 10 Nov (JHannan).

**Purple Finch:** Pruyn Sanctuary 11 Nov (SC); 6 Cooley Bog SULL 11 Nov (JH); widespread in low numbers.

**Pine Siskin:** Hillview Res 30 Sep (SC); Teatown L Reservation WEST 9 Oct (TS, AS); 2 Grieg Farm DUTC 23 Oct (AM); 2 EGR 16 Oct (AS); MC 28 Oct (GBen).

**Lapland Longspur:** NR 29-30 Oct (JH, mob).

**Snow Bunting:** max 4 PP 27-31 Oct (AW, ML, L); max 5 NR 28 Oct-6 Nov (SG, mob); Long Dock P 29 Oct (KB, DvZ).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Cold Spring PUTN 7 Oct (AW, AV); Grieg Farm 23 Oct (CP, DvZ, mob); Glynnwood Farm 24 Oct (SC); Posquiello Creekside Rd 29 Oct (PSh); CPP 10-11 Nov (AS, GBen).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Posquiello Creekside Rd 24 Sep (PSh); Milan DUTC 27 Sep (SJ); CPP 1 Oct (SC, mob).

**Fox Sparrow:** Mt Peter Hawkwatch 23 Oct (MZ); BSWMA 24 Oct (SB); PP 24 Oct (CW); Kendrige Farm 25 Oct (JCim).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** Hurley Mountain Rd 25 Sep (MR, PSh); BSWMA 29 Sep-24 (JH, KMi); 4 Grieg Farm (MR); Buttercup Audubon Sanctuary DUTC 29 Sep (DC).

**Vesper Sparrow:** OCBDR 5 Sep-19 Oct (BN, KA, mob); max 3 CPP 25 Sep-24 Oct (BT, mob); max 3 Stony Kill Farm EEC 29 Sep-24 Oct (KB, mob); max 6 Glynnwood Farm PUTN 3-24 Oct (SC, CR, MC, mob); max 9 BSWMA 7-24 Oct (JH, SB); EGR 8 Oct (AS, TS, mob); MP 18-19 Oct (JH, mob); 2 CPP 24 Nov (LT, LO).

**LeCONTE'S SPARROW:** CPP 6-10 Nov (MA, mob).

**Nelson's Sparrow:** max 2 CPP 24 Sep-7 Oct (KB, CR, mob); MC 6 Oct (GBen, TB); BSWMA 9 Oct (JH); Stone Ridge ULST 21 Oct (DN); Grieg Farm 21-24 Oct (MR, mob); MC 30 Oct (SC, SR). *intro*.

**Saltmarsh Sparrow:** 3 MC 6 Sep (SR, SC).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Posquiello Creekside Rd 8 Sep (PSh); max 5 SFSP 14-30 Sep (EF, TF); max 3 CPP 14-30 Sep (SR, LT, mob); max 5 Stony Kill Farm EEC 18 Sep (KB, CP, mob); max 4 BSWMA 19 Sep -24 Oct (JH, mob); 4 Vassar Farm and Ecological Pres DUTC 21 Sep (AL, KV); 9 Hurley Mt Rd 25 Sep (PSh, mob).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Dennings Pt 14-16 Sep (AL, CK); Hurley Mt Rd 6 Oct (RM).

**Bobolink:** 12 Grieg Farm 29 Sep (MR); max 2 Stony Kill Farm EEC 29-30 Sep (KB, CP); 7 Posqueillo Creekside Rd 1 Oct (PSh).

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 3 BSWMA 26 Sep-16 Nov (JH, SB); max 5 2-7 Nov (NW, mob); 10 Dobbs Ferry 20 Nov (JAs).

**Ovenbird:** MC 13 Oct (GBen, TB).

**Worm-eating Warbler:** CPP 26 Sep (JCim, JCav).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** Stony Kill Farm EEC 3 Sep (AL); BSWMA 11,16 Sep (EB, JH); OMRLMSP 26 Sep (SJ).

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 13 RSP 3-12 Sep (AS, mob); max 2 BSWMA 7-10 Sep (SB, JH).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** Georges I P 29 Sep (SL); Fallsburg SULL 30 Sep (MH); MC 9 Oct (GBen, BF).

**Nashville Warbler:** Valhalla WEST 18 Nov (KJ).

**Connecticut Warbler:** Posquiello Creekside Rd 11 Sep (PSh); HWCV 19 Sep (JAm); Old Field Preserve WEST 21 Sep (SR); Glynnwood Farm 26 Sep (SC); Aden Road SULL 2 Oct (SS); Grieg Farm 10 Oct (MR).

**Mourning Warbler:** RSP 7 Sep (GBer, AS, SK); WRNWR 11-17 Oct (KA, LS); MC 11 Sep (GBen, SC).

**Hooded Warbler:** Wonder L SP PUTN 25 Sep (DS, JD); Glynnwood Farm 26 Sep (SC); Minnewaska SP 5 Oct (SB, mob).

**Cape May Warbler:** CPP 25 Oct (CR, KL).

**Northern Parula:** SGNWR 23 Nov (HM).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 4 BSWMA 7-14 Sep (JH, mob); max 5 RSP 8-12 Sep (AS, mob); BSWMA 26 Sep (JH).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** Sand Dock Rd Trail 1 Oct (CC).

**Yellow Warbler:** NW 28 Oct (BN).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 15 NW 23-28 Oct (BN, KMi); LNP 10 Nov (TW).

**Pine Warbler:** RSP 20 Nov (AS, mob).

**Wilson's Warbler:** Madam Brett P 7 Oct (DvZ).

**Scarlet Tanager:** BSWMA 6 Oct (JH, SB); Newburgh 6 Oct (BN); Mills-Norrie SP 6 Oct (KF, CF). Widespread late reports.

**Blue Grosbeak:** CPP 23-24 Sep (SR, AS, CR, BS, mob); CPP 28 Sep (CR); CPP 6 Oct (TS, KKe); RSP 11 Oct (AS).

**Dickcissel:** Penslip Rd Kent PUTN 2-4 Sep (LJ); Posquiello Creekside Rd 8 Sep (PSh); Accord ULST 11 Sep (JT); PP 24 Sep (LP); CPP

24 Sep-31 Oct (SR, mob); OCBDR 25 Sep (BN); Glynnwood Farm 26 Sep (BM); Grieg Farm 27 Sep (MR); MC 30 Sep (GBen, TB); 2

OCBDR 1 Oct (JCim); BSWMA 7 Oct (JH), intro.

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## REGION 10—MARINE

**Brendan Fogarty**

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The period’s weather started out dangerously with remnants of Hurricane *Ida* pummeling the city and causing its first ever Flash Flood Emergency, which left over a dozen people dead as basements, subways, and other low-lying areas flooded. Precipitation totals in the city and Long Island were resultingly high in September, but a nor’easter on 26 October bumped those stats up as well. Temperatures in September and October averaged over 4 degrees warmer than normal. November was slightly colder and dryer than normal.

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	70.3°	69.2°	+1.1°	69.6°	66.9°	+2.7°
Oct	62.0°	57.9°	+4.1°	61.2°	55.7°	+5.5°
Nov	46.2°	48.0°	-1.8°	44.6°	45.6°	-1.0°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	<b>10.03"</b>	4.31"	5.72"	5.22"	3.60"	+1.62"
Oct	5.26"	4.38"	0.88"	6.81"	3.97"	+2.84"
Nov	1.22"	3.58"	-2.46"	0.71"	3.41"	-2.70"

Of the expected migrants to pass through Region 10 this season, a few did so at unusual times, or in unusual locations, or both. Black-legged Kittiwake is a quintessential November species that is sometimes seen from the shore during storms. Yet on the morning of 4 September, an immature **Black-legged Kittiwake** was seen working its way south over Astoria, Queens. Oddly enough, possibly the same bird was seen twelve hours later flying west (interestingly) over the breakers at Nickerson Beach in Nassau County. An unusual maxima was a count of **25 Whimbrel** in a loose flock of varying size that remained at Fort Tilden for a while in late September. Although this species in seen staging in numbers greater than this in the Northeast, Region 10 tends not to see flocks quite this big.

30 September brought the peak day for **Broad-winged Hawks** in the Region, with over 1,200 recorded going over Central Park. Conditions were so ideal in the area that kettles of raptors were rather easily spotted on the radar. Kettles were noticeably collecting along the Connecticut coastline and moving into Westchester and the Bronx. Groups did not all take the same



headings, some angling more west and others due south right through the heart of the city. There were relatively few sightings of large groups even in the Bronx and Manhattan, demonstrating that even a major raptor movement could be hard to detect from the ground as birds took narrow routes between thermals and likely remained very high. Birds at great altitude were photographed at a few locations. A few groups of hawks crossed the East River into western Queens, but there were only two sighting in that county that day, both to the East. None were reported from Nassau or Suffolk. There was only one report of that species on Staten Island that day, near its southern tip at Conference House Park, which was not far from where a **Swainson's Hawk** had been seen briefly earlier in that week.

September rarity highlights included a **Say's Phoebe** at Cupsogue, a **Yellow-headed Blackbird** at Nickerson Beach, a **Western Tanager** at Coney Island Creek, and a decently cooperative **Townsend's Warbler** at Green-Wood Cemetery. Staten Island repeatedly flexed its might this season: a **Brown Booby** spent some time near the Outerbridge Crossing, and Staten Island birders added a pending second state record of **Tropical Kingbird** followed by a **Northern Wheatear**, which was during the expected narrow window in which they often appear near the end of September.

**Cattle Egrets** made a push northeast this fall, with our first appearing on 20 October. Individuals were observed at two locations on Staten Island, one in Brooklyn, one in Nassau, and eight in Suffolk, with a maximum of four birds seen near Orient. Individuals were also seen at nearby points in New Jersey, Westchester, and truly the rest of the Northeast, with birders in Newfoundland encountering them at seven different locations, including one just a few miles from Labrador!

**Sandhill Crane** observations are still rare in our area as this species increases in the East. To demonstrate this point, an observer notes in an eBird checklist that he very closely avoided damaging some vehicles and pedestrians while observing one fly over Midtown East in mid- October. Although they were not recorded within our area, a remarkable group of 145 was noted flying southeast on 23 November from coastal Westchester in Region 9. A group of three were noted from Manhattan a few days later.

A few interesting hybrid individuals passed through New York City this season. A **White-throated Sparrow x Dark-eyed Junco** was seen in Prospect Park, but was outdone by a **Clay-colored x Field Sparrow** in Central Park. Clay-colored Sparrows are still extremely local in the East but they are doing well and have broad contact with their *spizella* cousins, so this pairing is not too shocking, but encountering one is! The last hybrid of note was a **Dunlin x White-rumped Sandpiper** which was at Jamaica Bay briefly. Uncooperative October miscellanea seen briefly included an **Eared Grebe** at Shinnecock Inlet, a **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum, and a **Varied Thrush** at Sands Point in northern Nassau.

Early goose watching in Bridgehampton, Suffolk turned up a **Pink-footed Goose** in November. This species has become an expected vagrant in the Northeast, where it has been showing up occasionally for decades, but very consistently since the beginning of the millennium. These geese were finally noticed in the tristate area in 2008, and Region 10 has hosted at least one for nearly every year since then.

It was not a spectacular season for seabirds, but there were some highlights. Dedicated seawatching at Robert Moses turned up a **Northern Fulmar**, which is expected offshore but very unusual inshore. NOAA transects turned up a **White-faced Storm-Petrel** in mid October, which is late relative to other records but there have never been many observers at the shelf edge at that time of year. The Orient Point ferry is a risky bet for pelagic birds, but an observer documented a **Brown Booby** in early November.

For landbirds, November didn't produce a ton of exceptional passerines. There was nearly no northern finch flight, and only two **Ash-throated Flycatchers** in contrast to the many last year. Although individuals were seen in September, both **Western Tanager** and **Say's Phoebe** were spotted again in November. The tanager seemed to be a bird returning to Carl Schurz Park in Manhattan, where it had spent the prior winter. Say's Phoebe is often seen in active migration, so it was remarkable that the bird at Caumsett State Park in Suffolk was seen for 27 days. The phoebe's cooperation was upstaged not in length but in quality by a **Gray Kingbird**, another slippery diurnal migrant, that stayed at Great Kills in Staten Island for ten days, and another which more typically vanished soon after being discovered at the Fire Island Lighthouse on 13 October.

303 species were reported in the Region this fall, down from 319 last autumn.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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**ABBREVIATIONS**

**APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **Bpt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **FIHW** – Fire Island Hawk Watch, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **FMCP** – Flushing Meadows-Corona P, QUEE; **FT** – Fort Tilden, QUEE; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **GwC** – Green-Wood Cemetery, KING; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **IHP** – Inwood Hill P, NEWY; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **MLUA** – Mount Loretto Unique Area, RICH; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **OMNSA** – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; **OP** – Orient Pt CP, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PtL** –Point Lookout, NASS; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RanI** – Randall’s I, NEWY; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock In, SUFF; **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; **WPP** – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

**FIRE ISLAND HAWKWATCH TOTALS**

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture				0
Turkey Vulture				0
Osprey	9/2	73	9/10	501
Golden Eagle	11/19	1	11/19	1
No. Harrier	9/3	29	9/30	232
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/19	17	9/30	106
Cooper’s Hawk	9/18	3	10/23	32
No. Goshawk				0
Bald Eagle	9/3	1		8
Red-shouldered Hawk				0
Broad-winged Hawk				0
Red-tailed Hawk				0
Rough-legged Hawk				0
Am. Kestrel	9/2	210	9/30	880
Merlin	9/3	93	9/26	886
Peregrine Falcon	9/13	8	10/14	116
Unidentified				4
Total inc unidentified				2767

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-**

**DUCK:** Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF 31 Oct (P. Orgera, JGI, LiN).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** none.

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE:** Bridgehampton, SUFF 28-29 Nov (KFe, SFe, PJJ, SSM).

**Cackling Goose:** many singles, max 3 Reeves Ave, SUFF 24 Nov (N. Tepper).

**Mute Swan:** max 180 JBWR (CFi), down slightly from fall R10 max 207 in in 2019.

**Tundra Swan:** only report: 2 Brookhaven, SUFF 25 Nov (MScb), flyovers.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** JBWR 24 Oct thru end of period (mob); Mill P Oyster Bay, NASS 27 Oct thru end of period (mob); West L and Patchogue L, SUFF 8 Nov thru end of period (mob); Great Pd, SUFF 13 Nov (J. Levin, H. Bohne).

**Canvasback:** singles arr 14 Nov, only reports from traditional sites at Flushing, QUEE, and Eastport, SUFF.

**Redhead:** max 20 Baisley Pd, QUEE 25 Nov (CFi), continued decline, down from fall 2018 R10 max of 65 there. Singles elsewhere in KING, QUEE, SUFF.

**King Eider:** Midland Beach, RICH 30 Sep thru end of period (C. Barron, mob); Napeague SP, SUFF 5 Oct (mob); L. Montauk 30 Oct thru end of period; Shinn 28 Nov (JRan).

**Harlequin Duck:** arr PtL 15 Nov (mob); only other 1 at Ditch Plains Beach, SUFF, 27 Nov (H. Mirando, J. Deitsch).

**Northern Bobwhite:** several reports in SUFF from known reintroductions but some in historical areas; 1 N Hempstead residential area, NASS 12 Nov (J. Wolf), unknown origin.

**Wild Turkey:** Cedarhurst, NASS 8 Oct (C. Wodinsky), unusual loc.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** individuals from KING, QUEE, and SUFF only.

**Red-necked Grebe:** only VCP 27 Oct (D. Karlson); RMSP 28 Oct (PJJ, SSM).

**EARED GREBE (R10):** Shinn 13 Oct (K. Gage).

**Common Nighthawk:** max 169 Stone Bridge Nighthawk Watch, SUFF 5 Sep

(PDom, *et al.*), season total of 1,819, 199 fewer than the previous season low in 2018.

**nighthawk sp.:** APP 8 Nov (MChu), intriguing sight report.

**Sora:** dep Cedar Beach, SUFF 21 Oct (MMcB).

**SANDHILL CRANE (R10):** Manhattan, NEWY 19 Oct (AFa), *intro*; CP 27 Nov (W. Snyder), photos.

**American Avocet:** none.

**American Golden-Plover:** no major flocks in Riverhead sod farms area for fourth year in a row: max 8 Southold, SUFF 14 Sep (KJK); numerous individuals in all counties except BRON and NEWY.

**Upland Sandpiper:** Rockaway Beach, QUEE 6 Sep (CFi, mob).

**Whimbrel:** max 25 FT 24 Sep (mob).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** 4 Shinn 26 Sep (BBu); 4 JBWR 16 Oct (ABk); 4 RMSP 17 Sep (ChC).

**Marbled Godwit:** 4 Ned's Creek, NASS, 7 Sep (J. Mohlin).

**Red Knot:** max 64 Lido B, NASS 14 Oct (JWP).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** more than previous fall, all counties except NEWY and BRON; max 4 Oregon Rd, Cutchogue, SUFF 3-9 Sep (mob).

**DUNLIN X WHITE-RUMPED**

**SANDPIPER:** JBWR 2-7 Oct, 6 Nov (ABk, JMal).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** 2 Oregon Rd, Cutchogue, SUFF 2-6 Sep (mob); FIHW 3 Sep (SSM), flyby; Smith Pt, SUFF 3 Sep (PAtk); 3 Eastport, SUFF 5-13 Sep; HSP 5 Sep (R. Valente); JBSP 6 Sep (N. Heer, J. Cushman); PlumbB 9 Sep (DHr, R. Manian); MF 11-17 Sep (mob); Sammy's B, SUFF 28 Sep (ACol).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** max 14 Amityville Ck, SUFF 6 Oct (MMb).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** JBWR 5 Sep (JMal); JBWR; HSP 11, 15 Sep (mob).

**Red-necked Phalarope:** PP 9 Sep (E. Ray, mob); JBWR 9-10 Oct.

**Red Phalarope:** pelagic coordinates 39.45059, -72.19959, SUFF 15 Oct (S. Weiss).

**Razorbill:** arr MP 28 Nov (SFe, KFe).

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** Astoria P, QUEE 4 Sep (TH), *intro*; Lido B, NASS 4 Sep (BF), *intro*; IHP 14 Nov (NSo, NOrr), unusual loc; max 32 RMSP 29 Oct (SSM).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 23 Bush Terminals Piers P, KING 16 Nov (ABk).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 310 RMSP 26 Oct (SSM).

**Caspian Tern:** away from immediate coast: IHP 2 Sep (mob), remnants of Hurricane *Ida*; Riverside P NEWY 2 Sep (JDr); 4 FMCP 16 Sep (CFi); PP 25 Sep (C. Winstanley) Chelsea Waterside P, NEWY 6 Oct (ACun).

**Black Tern:** 5 RMSP 2 Sep (SSM), remnants of Hurricane *Ida*; Rockaway B, QUEE 3 Sep (MNo, CFi); Mecox In 5 Sep (E. Eden); Bayswater Pt SP, QUEE. 6 Sep (T. Remy); JBWR 6 Sep (MBen); BPt 11 Sep (RZ); MP 25 Sep (F. Leff).

**Royal Tern:** dep Midland Beach, RICH 22 Nov (C. Barron).

**Norther Fulmar:** RMSP 29 Oct (SSM), very rare from shore.

**Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** dep pelagic coordinates (40.391, -72.352), SUFF 9 Nov (NST).

**WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:** pelagic coordinates (39.9972, -72.697) 16 Oct (T. Johnson), late.

**Sooty Shearwater:** Culloden Pt, SUFF15 Nov (AnW), late.

**BROWN BOOBY:** Outerbridge Crossing, RICH 11-19 Sep (D. Barbato, mob); RMSP 5, 9, 13 Oct (mob); from Orient Pt ferry SUFF 2 Nov (R. Shea).

**Northern Gannet:** IHP 26 Nov (DAr, ABu), unusual loc; max 10,000 GKP 30 Nov (PJL, SSM).

**Little Blue Heron:** dep OMNSA 19 Nov (mob).

**Cattle Egret:** many, OMNSA 20 Oct (M. Farina); Shirley Chisholm SP, KING 23 Oct (L. Chapman); Saw Mill Ck Marsh, RICH 31 Oct (ACi); MF 28 Oct – 4 Nov (AFe, mob); Hawley's L/Bergen Pt Golf Course,

SUFF 1 Nov (D. Cartwright/MMcB, mob); Cutchogue, SUFF 2 Nov (B. Bolduc); Cedar Beach, Babylon SUFF 4 Nov (MMcB, mob); Hook Pd, SUFF 10 Nov (SFe, KFe); Orient, SUFF, 1 Nov (PPo); Eastport, SUFF 21-24 Nov (S. Biasetti, mob); Riverhead, SUFF 25 Nov (KKI), *intro*.

**Black Vulture:** many BRON, NEWY, RICH, otherwise mostly near traditional overwintering group in Riverhead, SUFF, and a new group in Bellerose, QUEE.

**GOLDEN EAGLE (R10):** singles, IHP and FIHW, 19 Nov (mob).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** season total 106 FIHW (mob), low and only two-thirds of 2020 season total.

**Northern Goshawk:** none reported.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 24 IHP 24 Nov (ABu, DAr), NEWY high count on eBird of 28 was set here by ABu last season.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 1222 CP 30 Sep (D. Bruce Yoltan), *intro*; JBSP 10-14 Oct (mob), same imm, ph; Sag Harbor, SUFF 17 Oct (D. Quinn, M. Coyle).

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** WPP 24 Sep (ACi).

**Rough-legged Hawk:** one, Bay Shore, SUFF 18 Oct (A. deLuca).

**Great Horned Owl:** CP 3 Oct (R. Serio, mob), record early arrival for the park.

**Snowy Owl:** modest flight beginning on Suffolk beaches, arr 5 Nov, also RanI 28 Nov (M.B Cooper, mob).

**Barred Owl:** PBP 7-9 Nov (H. Clancy); Rocky Pt State Pine Barrens Pres, SUFF 21 Sep (B. Bolduc).

**Long-eared Owl:** none reported.

**Short-eared Owl:** FKP 20 Oct (JRG); Ferry Pt Pk, BRON 22 Oct, 18 Nov (RAR).

**PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10):** several locations in RICH, VCP 25 Sep (C. Standridge).

**American Kestrel:** max 255 FT 26 Sep (ABk, SWa).

**ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER:** JBSP 3-5 Nov (mob); Bayswater P, QUEE 20 Nov (EMi).

**TROPICAL KINGBIRD:** MLUA 26 Sep (RvE, mob); see article pp. 2-8.

**Western Kingbird:** MLUA 19 Oct (ACi); Cedar Beach, Babylon, SUFF 20 Oct

(MMcB); HSP 4 Nov (PJL); Elizabeth Morton NWR, SUFF 6 Nov (E. Daly); Caumsett SP, SUFF 3-9 Nov (SFe, KFe, mob).

**GRAY KINGBIRD:** RMSP 13 Oct (EiS, mob); GKP 29 Nov thru end of period (N. Pietrunti, C. Cremer, mob).

**SAY'S PHOEBE:** Cupsogue Beach, SUFF 11 Sep (L. Musher, mob); Caumsett SP, SUFF 14 Oct – 9 Nov (SFe, KFe, mob).

**Northern Shrike:** Caumsett SP, SUFF 23 Oct (P. Shure); Prybil B, NASS 28 Oct (mob).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** max 115, 10 Sep (SSi, DG).

**SEDGE WREN (R10):** 2, FKP thru 25 Sep (mob), carrying food.

**VARIED THRUSH:** Sands Pt Pres, NASS 25 Oct (mob).

**NORTHERN WHEATEAR:** MF 29 Sep (ACi, mob).

**Evening Grosbeak:** none this year after several years of encouraging flights.

**White-winged Crossbill:** JBSP 29 Oct (V. Glasser, ph); RMSP 25 Nov (PJL, SSM, BBom).

**Pine Siskin:** few, max 21 OP 7 Nov (JSep).

**Lark Sparrow:** multiple in each county except BRON and RICH: max 3 RMSP 4 Sep (mob).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** multiple in each county.

**CLAY-COLORED x FIELD SPARROW:** CP 30 Oct (T. Zahner), *intro*.

**DARK-EYED JUNCO x WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:** 1 PP 3 Nov (J. Kalb).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** one or more inds in each county.

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R10):** PtL 1 Sep – 25 Oct (mob).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** dep CP 11 Oct (DHo).

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 20 St. Francis Pd Pres, NASS Nov (T. Powell), low.

**Boat-tailed Grackle:** nowhere away from South Shore locs.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** OMNSA, 16 Oct (mob), late.

**Connecticut Warbler:** many, over 20 reports in all counties.

**Cerulean Warbler:** CHP 19 Sep (RvE, ACi).

**Northern Parula:** max 292 PP (C. Winstanley), morning flight.

**Magnolia Warbler:** JBSP 11 Nov (SAu), late.

**TOWNSEND'S WARBLER:** GwC 9-10 Sep (DG, G. Armistead, C. Bell, mob).

**Summer Tanager:** Astoria P, QUEE 11 Sep (The); PP 11-14 (mob); GwC 22 Sep (C. Griffiths); MLUA 26 Sep (RvE, mob).

**Scarlet Tanager:** Hudson Ri P, NEWY 22 Nov (anonymous eBirder), ph, late.

**WESTERN TANAGER:** Coney I Creek P, KING, 26 Sep (RyM, MY); Carl Schurz P, NEWY 24 Nov thru end of period (mob), returning wintering bird. **Dickcissel:** reports from all counties: max 5 RMSP 3 Sep (SFe, KFe).

## EXOTICS

**European Goldfinch:** only reported from PP, trad site.



## REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

## STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; alt – alternate plumage; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; Co – County; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; Mt – Mountain; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pres – Preserve; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

## BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

**POSSIBLE:** H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

**PROBABLE:** S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

**CONFIRMED:** PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with young.

## REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

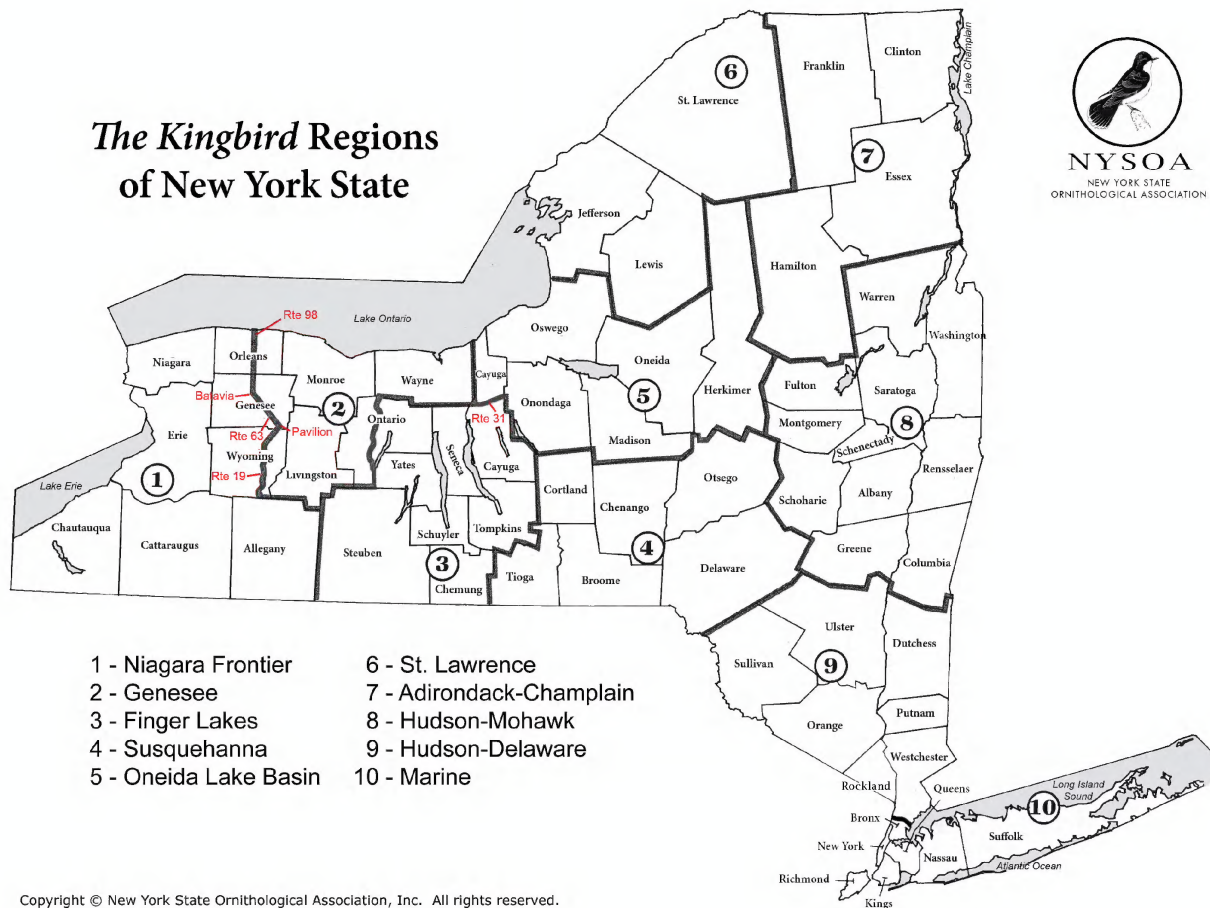
the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64 from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21 from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.



## The Kingbird Regions of New York State



**NYSOA**  
NEW YORK STATE  
ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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